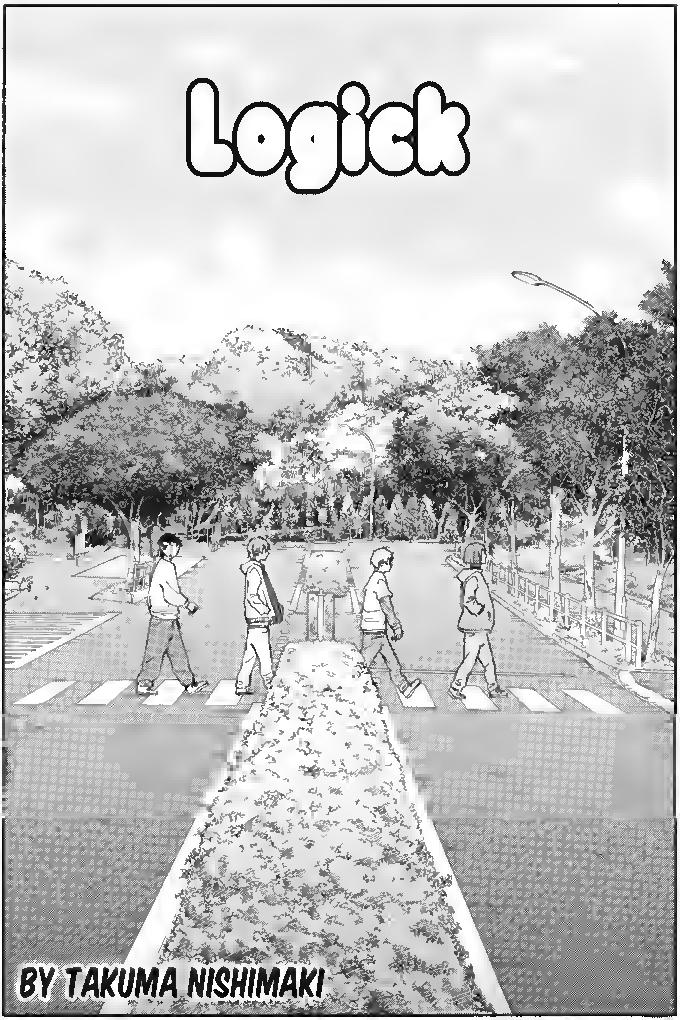
Logick



BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI

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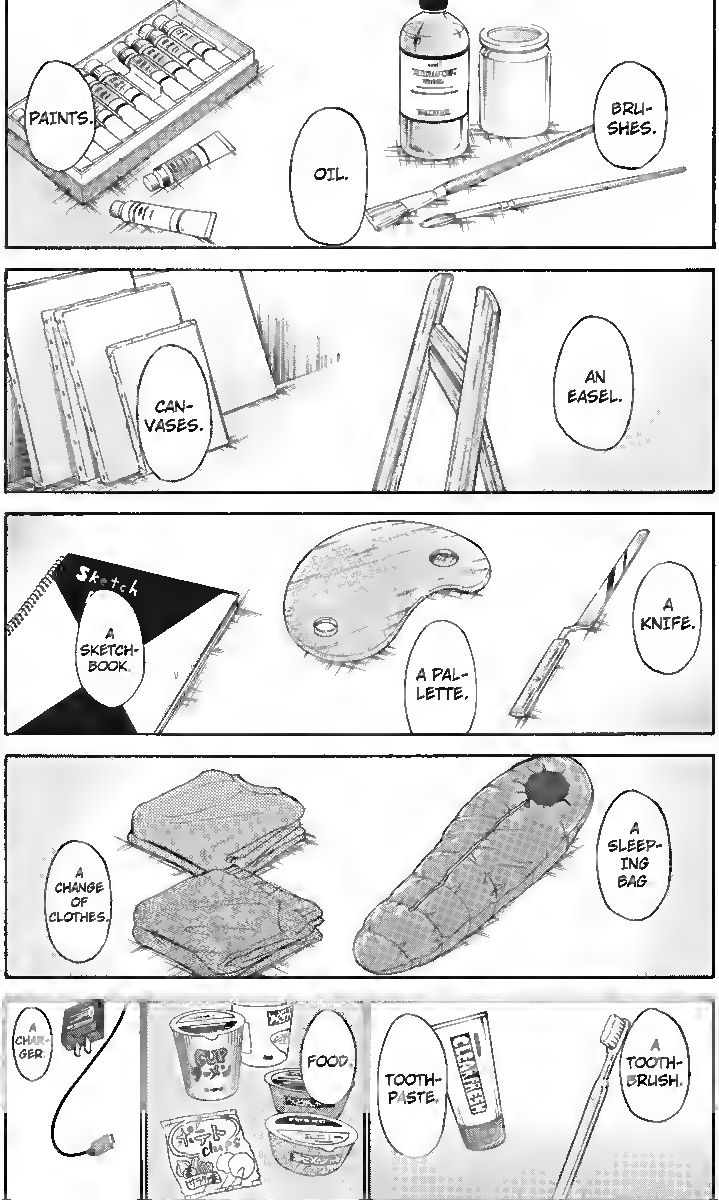
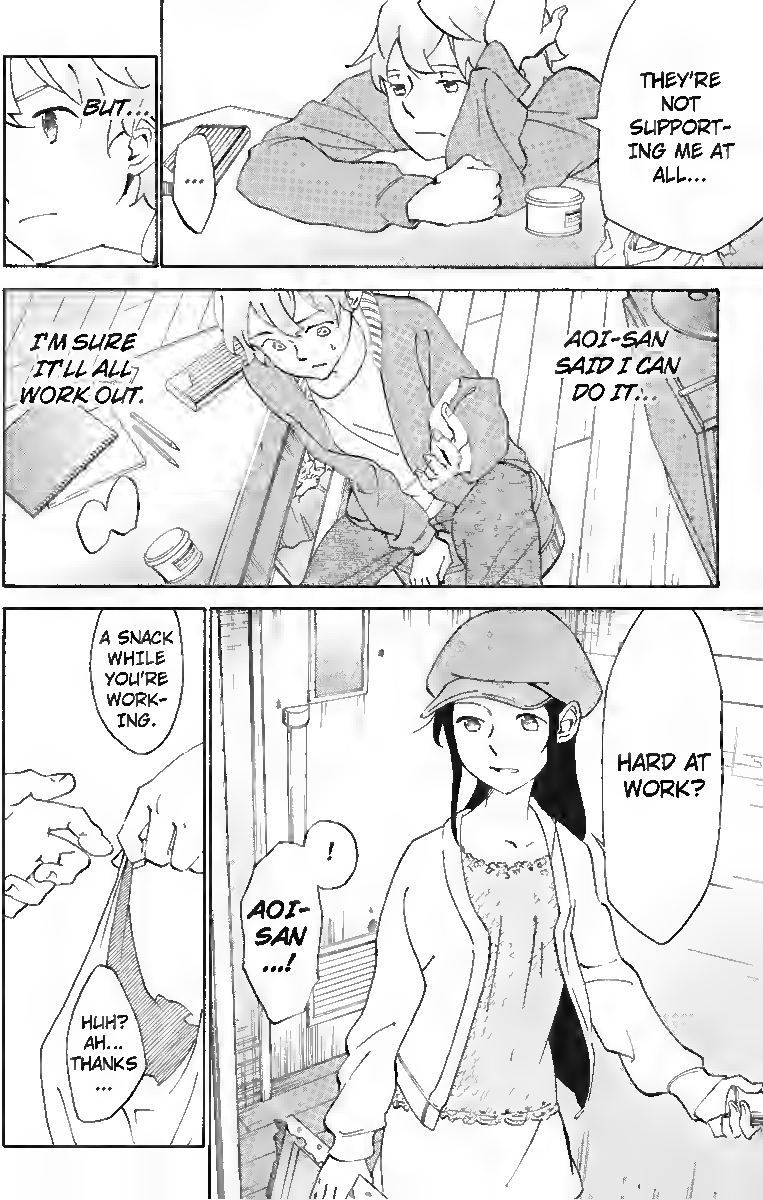


THESE ARE SOME OF THE ITEMS I CARRY WITH ME. SOME ARE NECESSITIES, SOME ARE USED FOR ENTERTAINMENT.

HMM...
I GUESS THEY DID GET EVERY-THING.
BUT...
THAT'S THAT, SO I'M GOING HOME!
WHAT!?
OKAY!
WAVE
WE HAVE TO WORK ON OUR OWN PROJECTS.
AND UNLIKE YOU, WE ACTUALLY HAVE CLASS.
ANYWAY, WORK HARD!
...


THEY'RE NOT SUPPORT-ING ME AT ALL...
...
BUT...
AOI-SAN SAID I CAN DO IT...
I'M SURE IT'LL ALL WORK OUT.
HARD AT WORK?
!
AOI-SAN ...!
A SNACK WHILE YOU'RE WORK-ING.
HUH? AH... THANKS ...

HUH?
LIAR.
THIS.
THIS IS A TERRIBLE PAINTING.
!
THAT'S ...!

AT THIS RATE. .
THERE'S NO POINT IN STICK-ING AROUND YOU.
WHY?
I LOOKED AT ALL THE OTHER PAINTINGS IN THE STUDIO, TOO, BUT NONE OF THEM WERE ANY GOOD.
WHY ...?
IF YOU CAN'T MAKE GOOD PAINTINGS ...
THERE'S NO POINT IN STICK-ING AROUND YOU.
WHAT ?
... HUH?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

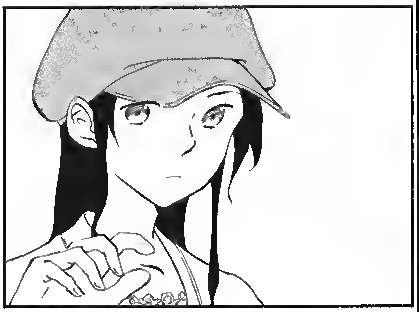
WH-WHAT, YOU, TOO?
DIDN'T YOU GO ON ABOUT HOW GOOD MY WORK WAS!?
...THE DRAWINGS IN YOUR SKETCH-BOOK ARE WONDER-FUL.
BUT...
THE ONES YOU PUT ON CANVAS ARE NO GOOD. THEY'RE NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL.
LIKE ME?
ALL THE DRAWINGS IN YOUR SKETCH-BOOK ARE SO FULL OF LIFE ...
IT FEELS LIKE YOU'RE DRAWING THINGS YOU WANT TO DRAW IN THAT BOOK.
THERE ISN'T ANY OF THAT IN YOUR OIL PAINT-INGS.
IT JUST LOOKS TO ME LIKE YOU'RE PAINTING THEM BECAUSE YOU'RE BEING FORCED TO.

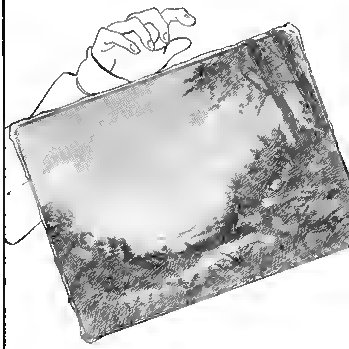
FINE, THEN! WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
FI-
FINE!
THI
A FAIL

I'VE BEEN DRAWING LIKE CRAZY!
...I AM!
AT THIS RATE, SOUJI-SAN WILL LAUGH AT YOU.
ARE YOU REALLY DOING THIS SERIOUSLY?

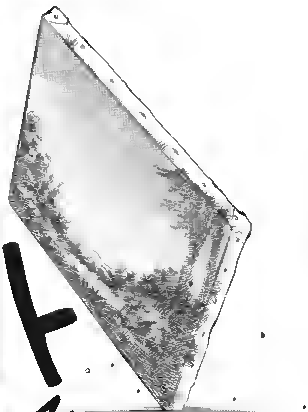
THEN I JUST DON'T KNOW ANYMORE.
!
YOU CAN'T BE FOR REAL!
I...

NOBODY THINKS ABOUT ME!
YOU'RE ALL SO SELF-ISH!
THE REASON I THOUGHT I'D TRY DOING THIS...
IS BE-CAUSE YOU SAID YOU THOUGHT I COULD DO IT!
...!
MY HANDS ARE TO-TALLY FULL RIGHT NOW...
I-I...
THEN WHO ARE YOU THINKING ABOUT?
...!?





THU



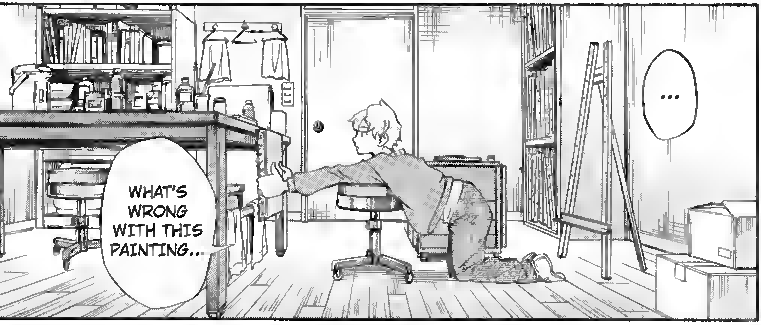
NK

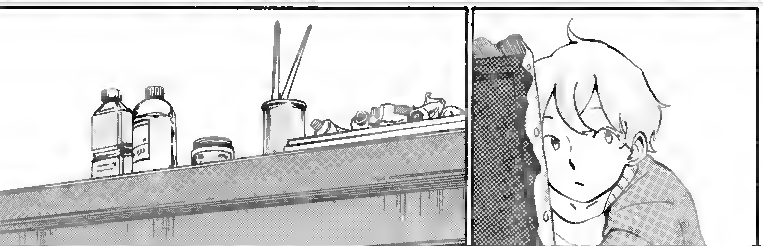
WHAT! YOU'RE THE ONE WHO STARTED HARRASSING ME!!
I DON'T BOTHER ANYONE! ISN'T THAT BETTER?
WHAT THE HELL! YOU'RE ALL A BUNCH OF...
ASS-HOLES!
A BUNCH OF ASS-HOLES AND SHIT-HEADS!
ASS-HOLES!
ASS-HOLES!
SHIT-HEADS!

SO IF YOU TAKE THE TWINS PARADOX THAT WE TALKED ABOUT LAST WEEK AND THEN CROSS THAT HORI-ZON...
BUT ACTUALLY, THE EARTH HAS ITS OWN HORIZON
...SO THAT MEANS THAT NOTHING CAN ESCAPE FROM BEYOND THE EVENT HORIZON OF THE BLACK HOLE
YOU THINK MASA-SAN CAN SELL?
WHAT?
BLAH BLAH BLAH.
HEY, HATTORI-SAN
BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH..
WHAT DO YOU THINK?
I DUNNO

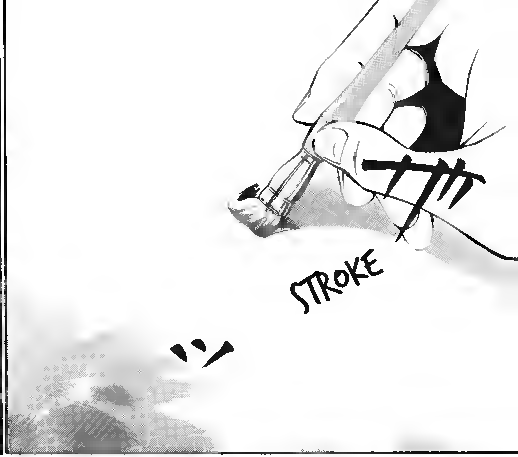
NO WAY.
I SAW THEM EARLIER. HE'S GOT NO TALENT.
SO IT'S LIKE I THOUGHT ...
AGH. 300,000 ...
...
ERI-CHAN.
ARE YOU GOING TO SEE THE TEACHER, TOO?
AH! AOI-SAN.

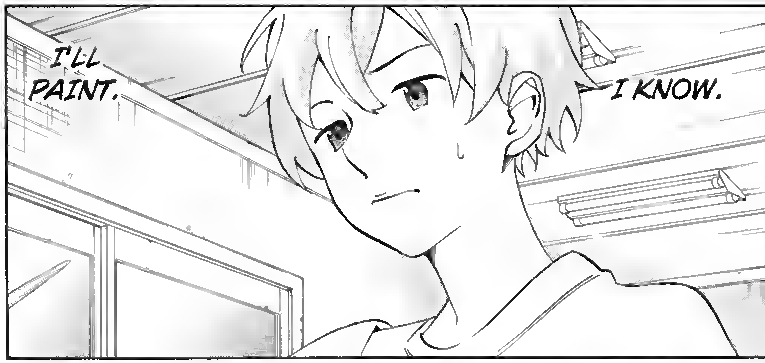
I THINK YOU SHOULD JUST GIVE UP.
YEAH.
ALL THIS IS REALLY MY FAULT, SO...
UM... GIVE UP WHAT?
IF YOU GO SEE HIM NOW...
YOU'LL JUST START TO HATE HIM.
...?

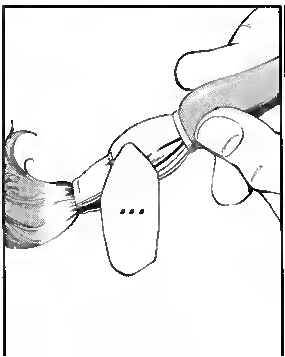

WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS PAINTING...
...



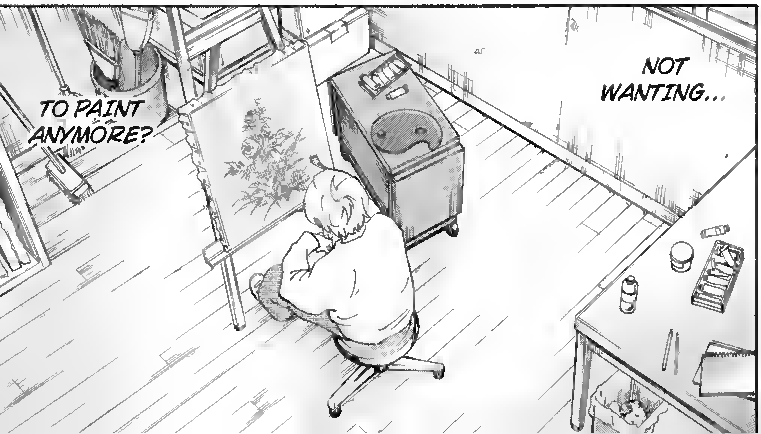
FOR NOW, I SHOULD JUST PAINT, THEN...?
FINE...


STROKE


I'LL PAINT.
I KNOW.


...

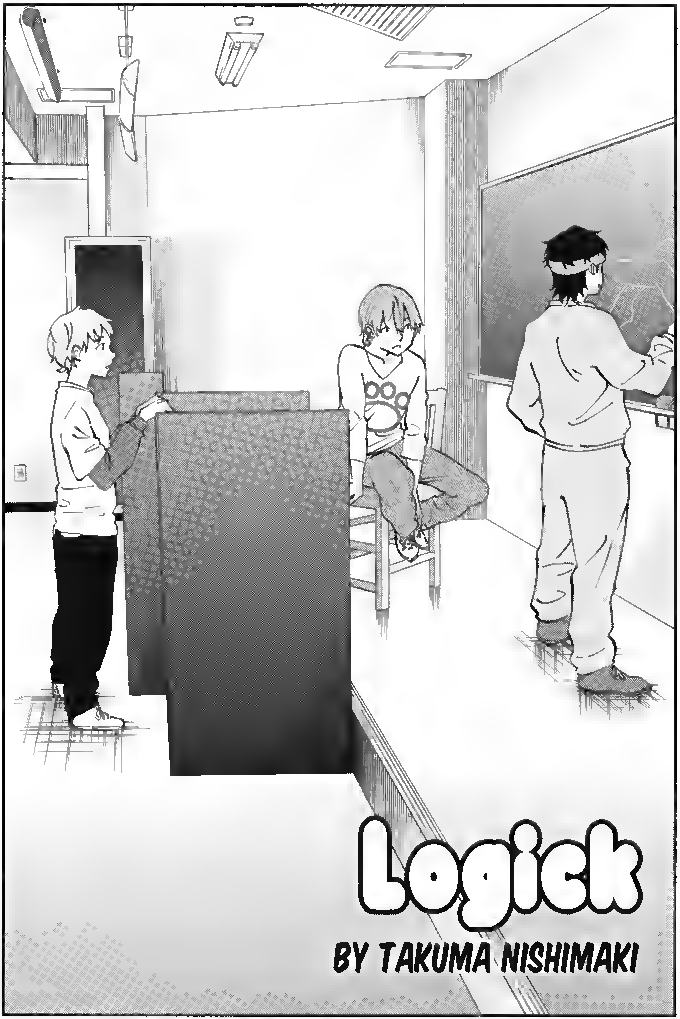
WHEN DID I START...



BZZ
BZZ

...!
DAD...!

BZZ
DAD
VOICE CALL
BZZ



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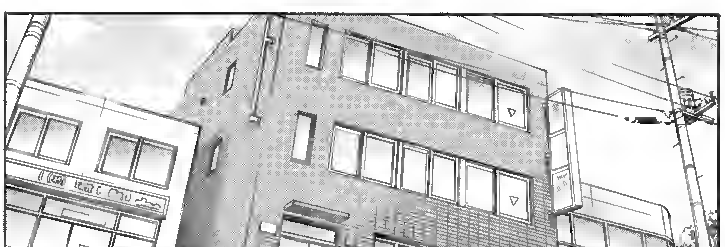
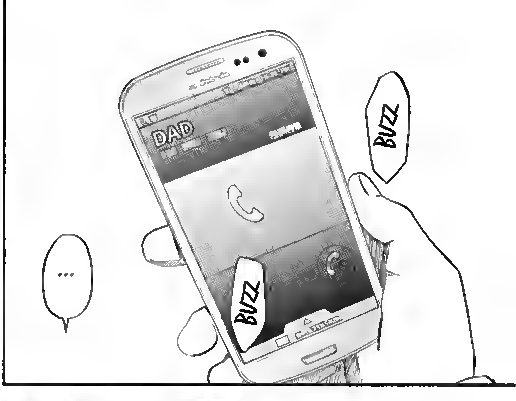


BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS SPENDING MORE TIME WITH FUJISHIRO THAN I WAS WITH MY FRIENDS.

YOU'RE JUST IN THE WAY HERE, SO GO HOME FOR TODAY.
THEN THAT'S ENOUGH.
TSK.
...
YES, SIR...
...AH!
AND GET YOURSELF A HAIR CUT ALREADY!
THAT LONG, CURLY HAIR OF YOURS IS DIS-GUSTING!
...YES, SIR.
HEY, FUJI-SHIRO!

HEL-
LO?


...
DAD
BUZZ
BUZZ

R-
REAL-
LY.
I
SEE.
TODAY MY
BOSS SAID
I'VE BEEN
DOING A
GREAT JOB,
SO I WAS
ALLOWED
TO LEAVE
EARLY.

IT'S
BEEN
A LONG
TIME
SINCE
WE LAST
SPOKE.
HOW
ARE YOU,
MASASHI?
FINE.

THAT'S
NOT
WHAT I
MEANT...
WHAT?
DO I NEED A
REASON TO
CALL MY OWN
SON?
WH-WHAT
HAPPENED
TODAY?

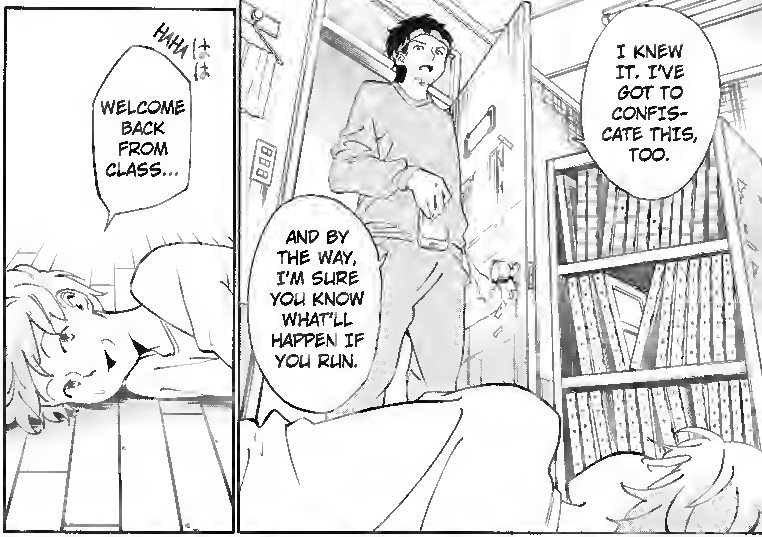
ANY-WAY,
ARE YOU WORKING HARD AT SCHOOL?
DAD...
WHAT, ARE YOU QUITTING?
ABOUT THAT...
HUH?

DAD...
I UNDERSTAND.
...
YOU WANT TO TRANSFER TO A BETTER ART SCHOOL, RIGHT?
YOU'VE BEEN STUDYING FOR A YEAR AT THIS SCHOOL.
YOU'LL DEFINITELY GET INTO A BETTER SCHOOL THIS TIME.
NO,
DAD, I WON'T ...

WHY DO YOU ALWAYS SAY THINGS LIKE THAT!?
NO! THAT'S NOT WHAT I WANT! THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT!
YOU'LL BE FINE!
YOU'LL BE ABLE TO REACH YOUR DREAMS IN MY PLACE.
...!
I...
BEEP
MA-MASA-SHI!?
WHAT'S WRONG!?

...
'SCUSE ME!
SQUEEZE
YANK
THESE STUPID THINGS ...!
YOU'RE BEING KIND OF LOUD.
... SORRY.

SIGH.
WHY WAS I DOING THIS...
THERE'S NO TV,
NO VIDEO GAMES,
I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE BUT TO DRAW.
THERE'S SOME GAMES ON MY PHONE ..
HUH?


HAHA
WELCOME BACK FROM CLASS...
AND BY THE WAY, I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN IF YOU RUN.
I KNEW IT. I'VE GOT TO CONFISCATE THIS, TOO.

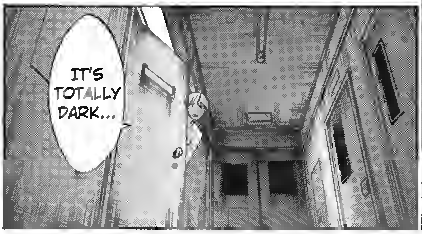
...
THIS IS SOLITARY CONFINEMENT...
SHUT UP IN A ROOM DEEP IN THE MOUNTAINS...

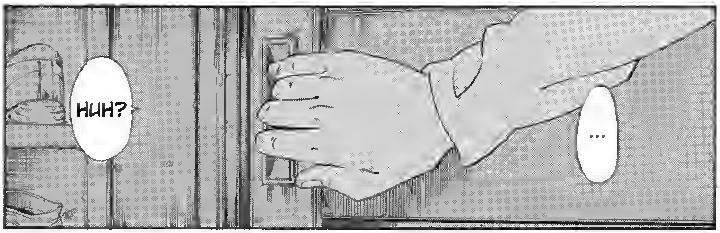
23 14
IT'S BEEN A WHILE SINCE I'VE IMMERSED MYSELF IN DRAWING FOR SUCH A LONG STRETCH LIKE THIS...
BUT...

THAT'S NO GOOD, MASASHI!

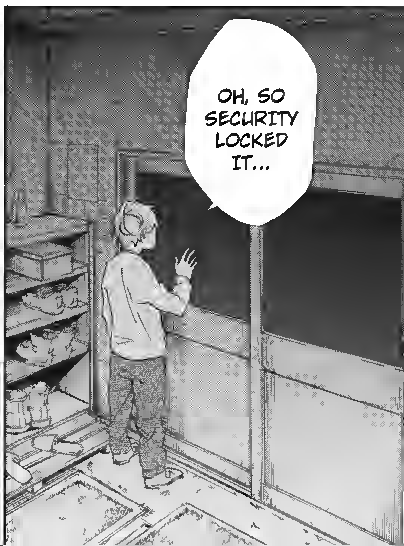
JUMP
!?
...
THAT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY...

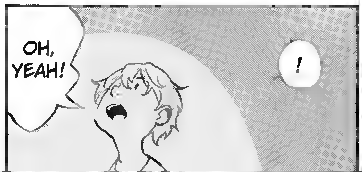
CREEEAK


IT'S TOTALLY DARK...


HUH?
...

...I REALLY CAN'T LEAVE ...?


OH, SO SECURITY LOCKED IT...

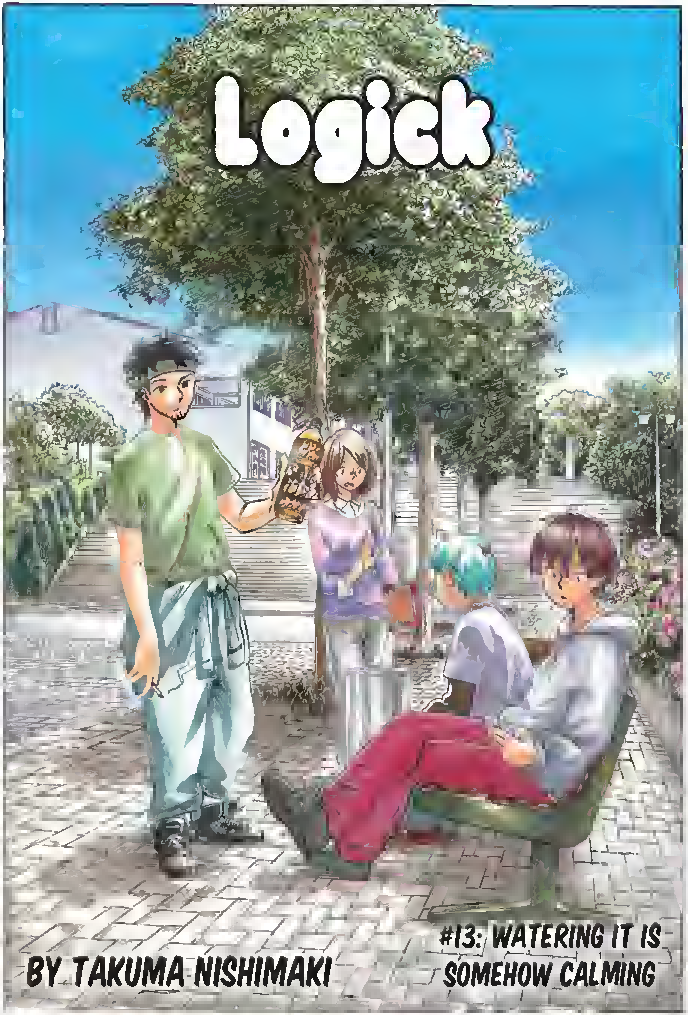

OH, YEAH!
!

IT DEFINITELY WASN'T SECURITY THAT DID THIS...
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
!?
OH, WELL
THIS IS THE SLEEPING BAG?
I WONDER HOW I USE IT?

...THIS DOESN'T SEEM RIGHT.
...
SLEEP-ING BAGS ARE HARD TO BREATHE IN...
CLICK
AH-CHOO!

SLURP SLURP
...
DO I HAVE TO KEEP LIVING LIKE THIS?
HOW MANY MONTHS...
BUT...

IT'S NOT ABOUT AOI-SAN,
AND IT'S NOT ABOUT DAD.
IT WAS MY DECISION.
I DECIDED TO JOIN THE EXHIBITION.



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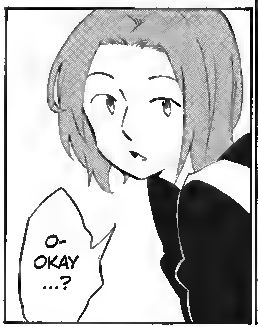
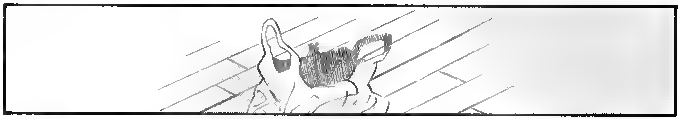
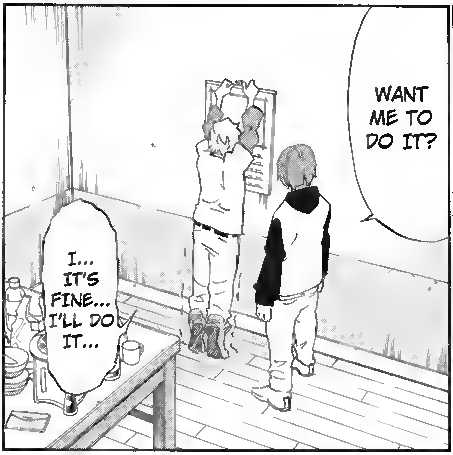
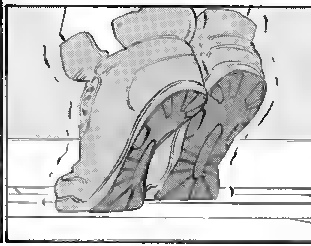
AUGUST FIRST?
YEP. YOU'VE GOT ABOUT ANOTHER TWO MONTHS.
I SAID, WHEN!
YOU WANNA KNOW?
COME ON!
YOU REALLY WANNA KNOW?
HEY, SHIN-YA.
HM?
SO YOU HAVE TO FINISH YOUR WORK ABOUT THREE DAYS BEFORE THEN.
WELL, WE HAVE TO SET UP EVERY-THING AND STUFF, TOO,


O-
OKAY
...?

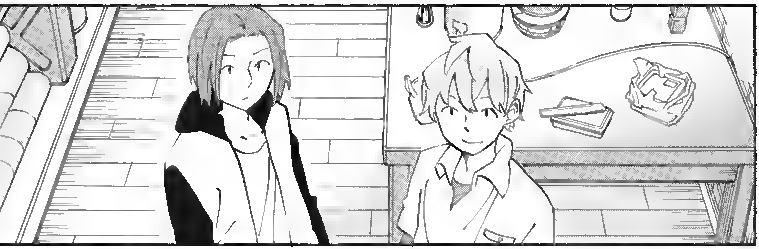
GO BUY
ME A
CALENDAR!




I...
IT'S
FINE...
I'LL DO
IT...
WANT
ME TO
DO IT?

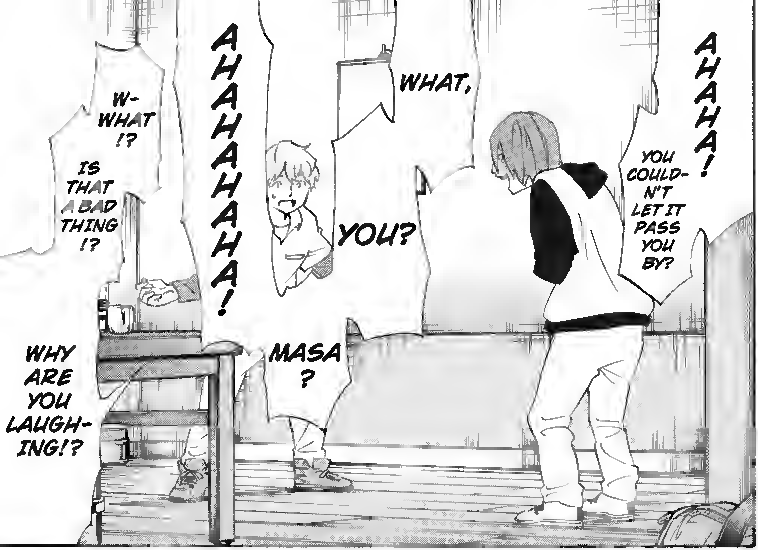


August
Tue Wed The Fri Sat
1 2
5 6 7 8 9
10 11 12 13 14 15 16
17 18 19 20 21 22 23
THERE WE GO...



HM?
HEY, MASA.

YOU SUDDENLY SEEM SO INTO THIS.
WHAT GIVES?
...
YOU WANNA KNOW?
AAAAGH!
SORRY!
WHACK
WHACK
WHACK
...
WELL... I MEAN...
I JUST COULDN'T LET THIS CHANCE PASS ME BY...
... WHAT?


AHAHA!
YOU COULD-N'T LET IT PASS YOU BY?
WHAT,
YOU?
AHAHAHAHA!
MASA?
W-WHAT!?
IS THAT A BAD THING!?
WHY ARE YOU LAUGH-ING!?

I NEVER THOUGHT YOU'D EVER FEEL MO-TIVATED TO...
...JUMP ON AN OPPOR-TUNITY.
HAHA, SORRY.

...
AH, SORRY, SORRY ...

...
PFT!

HUH?

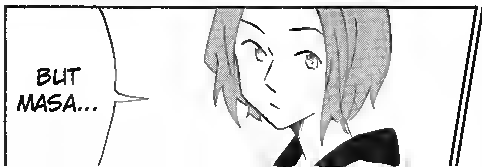
AHAHA!
HAHA!
...

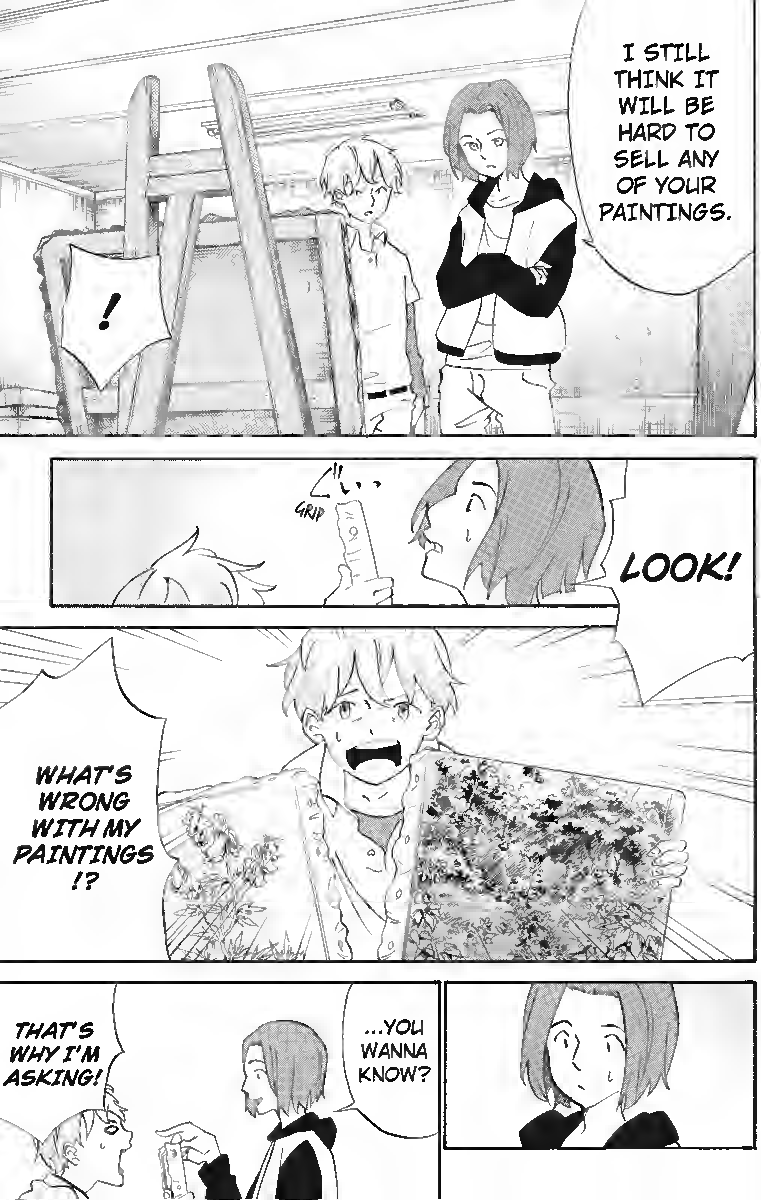
AND NOW YOU'RE PAINTING FROM MORNING 'TILL NIGHT.
AND YOU'RE BEING PROACTIVE!
IT'S NOT LIKE YOU AT ALL.

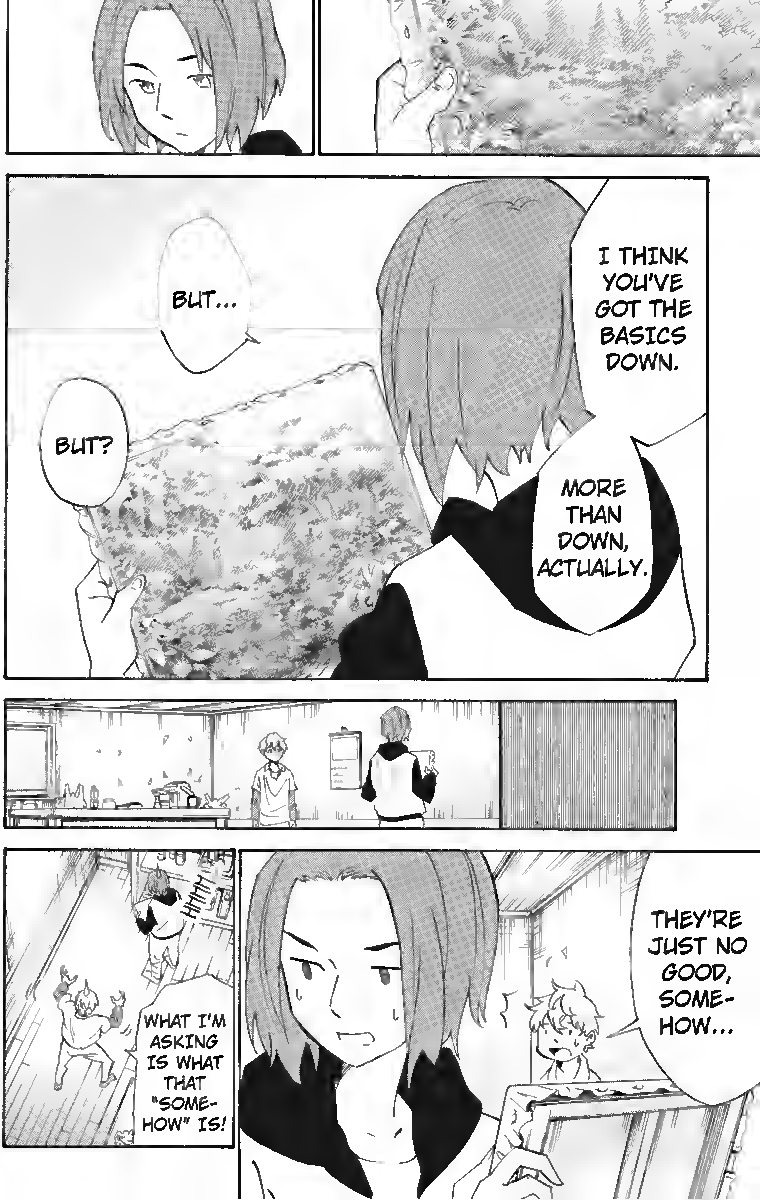
WELL, USUALLY YOU WOULDN'T, AM I RIGHT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU TAKE THE INITIATIVE...
ON ANYTHING BEFORE.

ASIDE FROM EATING AND GOING TO THE BATHROOM,
I'M PAINTING ALL THE TIME.
I DON'T EVEN SLEEP SOME DAYS
YOU'RE WORKING HARD.
IT'S WEIRD TO SAY IT MYSELF, BUT

I GUESS.


BUT MASA...


I STILL THINK IT WILL BE HARD TO SELL ANY OF YOUR PAINTINGS.
!
GRIP
LOOK!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH MY PAINTINGS !?
...YOU WANNA KNOW?
THAT'S WHY I'M ASKING!

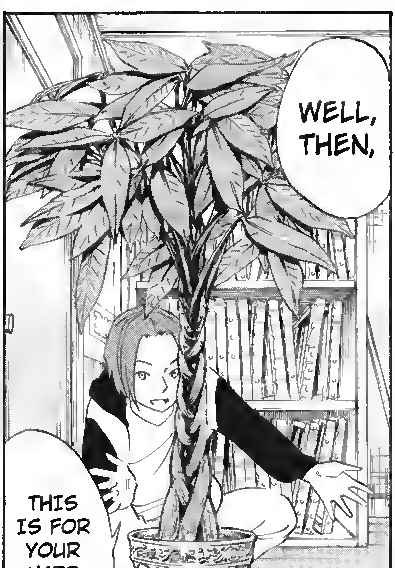

I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE BASICS DOWN.
MORE THAN DOWN, ACTUALLY.
BUT...
BUT?
THEY'RE JUST NO GOOD, SOME-HOW...
WHAT I'M ASKING IS WHAT THAT "SOME-HOW" IS!

DO YOU...
HAVE A SENSE OF SELF?
...SENSE OF SELF?
HM... I MEAN, LIKE, ORIGINALITY...
OR LIKE... AVANT GARDENESS?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT IS MISSING, I THINK.
IT LOOKS LIKE... SOMEONE IS FORCING YOU TO PAINT...
THAT'S NOT ENOUGH OF A HINT!
HM...

...
HUH?

AH, HERE'S A WATERING CAN.
IT LOOKED LIKE IT WAS ABOUT TO DRY UP, SO I'LL LEAVE IT HERE.
AND SOME FERTIL-IZER
PLOP
PLOP

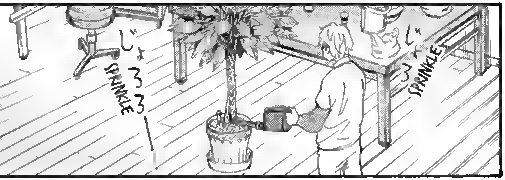
UM, BUT WHY...
...

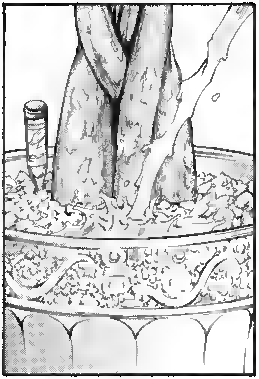

WELL, THEN,
THIS IS FOR YOUR HARD WORK!
TA-DA!

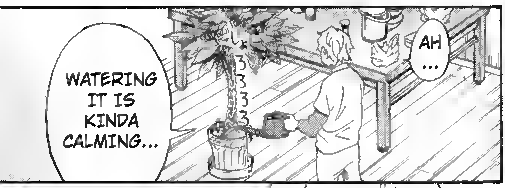
RELAX, HUH ...

THAT'S ALL THE ADVICE I CAN GIVE YOU.
RELAX AND PAINT WHAT YOU LIKE!

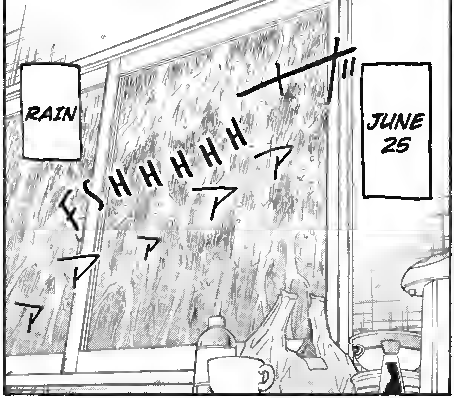
WORK HARD!
WELL, I'M OFF, THEN.

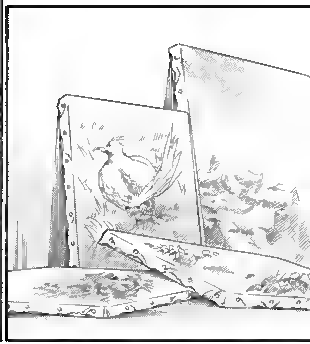

じょ
SPRINKLE
じょ
SPRINKLE

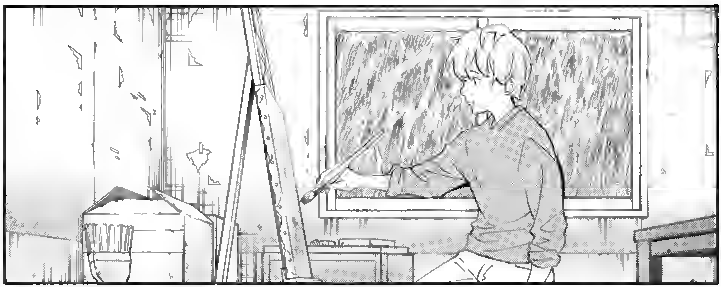



じょ
WATERING IT IS KINDA CALMING...
AH...

...I GOTTA PAINT!
6
June
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat
1 2 3 4 5 6 7
8 9 10 11 12 13 14
LESS THAN TWO MONTHS UNTIL THE EXHIBITION...


RAIN
SHHHHH
JUNE 25





WHAT IS IT THAT I WANT TO PAINT...?

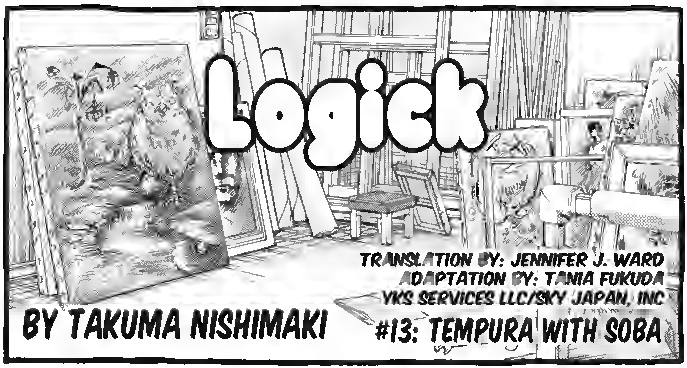
I DON'T KNOW...
ALL I CAN DO IS WHAT MY FATHER TOLD ME TO DO.
BUT...
IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING NOW, I'LL FEEL LIKE I MISSED MY CHANCE.

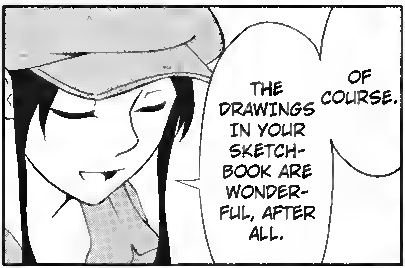
MUMBLING TO YOURSELF LIKE A FREAK, AS USUAL, I SEE.
!
SO MASA-SAN,
LEAP
A-AOI-SAN!?
YOU'RE WAY TOO SKITTISH.
I DON'T EXPECT ANYTHING OF YOU ANYMORE,
SO DO WHAT YOU WANT.
...HUH?
WHY?
BUT I...
I'M SORRY. I WAS SELFISH.

I-
I...
UH-
YEAH?
A-AOI-
SAN...
UP UNTIL
NOW, I'VE
NEVER...
MADE
ANY OF
MY OWN
DECI-
SIONS.
I'VE
ALWAYS
FOLLOWED
A...
PATH
LAID
OUT BY
OTHERS.
MIDDLE
SCHOOL,
HIGH
SCHOOL,
UNIVER-
SITY.
ART
WASN'T
SOME-
THING I
CHOSE,
EITHER
BUT I
NEVER
THOUGHT
ANYTHING
OF IT,
EITHER,
AND I
NEVER
HAD ANY
DOUBTS
ABOUT
IT.

I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SELL ANYTHING,
BUT I'M GONNA TRY MY BEST ...!
MAYBE YOUR ACTIONS TRIG-GERED IT,
BUT JOINING THE EXHI-BITION WAS MY DECISION.
THIS IS THE FIRST DECISION I'VE EVER MADE ON MY OWN.
BUT ...!
THAT'S WHY I WANT TO SEE THIS THROUGH.

SO I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN SELL ANY-THING...
BUT I'LL TRY...!


Logick
TRANSLATION BY: JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY: TANIA FUKUDA
VIZ SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC
BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI
#13: TEMPURA WITH SOBA


OF COURSE.
THE DRAWINGS IN YOUR SKETCH-BOOK ARE WONDER-FUL, AFTER ALL.

AOI-SAN...!

THIS IS A WORK OF FICTION. NAMES, CHARACTERS, PLACES, AND INCIDENTS ARE THE PRODUCTS OF THE AUTHOR'S IMAGINATION OR ARE USED FICTITIOUSLY.

HUH?
UM...
I WILL, BUT...
HM?
I'LL GIVE THIS.
BACK TO YOU, TOO...
DIARY
!
HUH?
THANKS FOR EVERY-THING.
YOU'RE NOT MY TEACHER ANYMORE.
THIS IS THE DIARY...
YOU USED TO BLACK-MAIL ME?

UM... AOI-SAN?
WHAT IS THIS, ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT A LOT...
ABOUT YOU,
ABOUT ME...
AND I DECIDED TO QUIT BEING YOUR DISCIPLE.
MASA-SAN...
I DON'T THINK YOU CAN MAKE A GOOD PAINTING.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND ANYMORE...
!
IT'S LIKE...
WHY...
I'D ALREADY DECIDED IT'S NOT ABOUT AOI-SAN, BUT STILL...

THIS IS SO FRUSTRATING...
AH...
I'M SO FRUSTRATED ...
ARE YOU CRYING?

MEN DON'T CRY...
...
O-OF COURSE!
BUT ARE YOU REALLY OKAY?
...
YOU'VE BEEN CONSTANTLY PAINTING WITHOUT A BREAK LATELY...
I WAS A LITTLE WOR-RIED...
HUH?
WELL...
IT DOESN'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU.

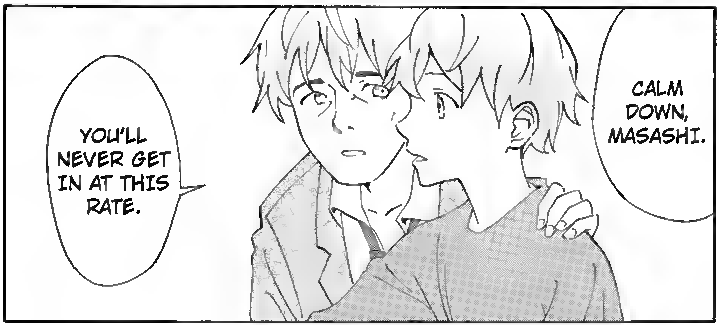
THIS IS SOME-THING...
I HAVE TO SOLVE ON MY OWN.
S-SOR-
IT'S OKAY.
THAT JUST SOUND-ED...
PRETTY COOL, MASA-SAN.
HUH!?
M-M-M-M-M-ME!?

TEM-PURA AND SOBA!?
PLEASE, EAT!
?
YOU MADE SOME-THING?
ANYWAY, I MADE THIS FOR YOU...
THE BATTER IS CRISPY, TOO...
THEY'RE FIRM AND TASTE GREAT...
SLURP SLURP
...
SOBA...?
...MAKE WHAT?
IF YOU LIKE, WHY DON'T WE MAKE SOME TOGETHER SOMETIME?
U-UM, MASA-SAN...
I SEE.
...

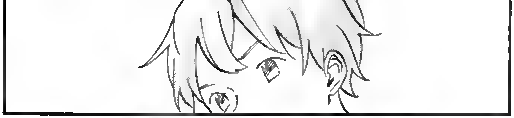
PHEW...
LET'S DRAW...!
THERE'S LOTS OF THINGS ON MY MIND...
BUT RIGHT NOW I'M JUST FRUSTRATED...

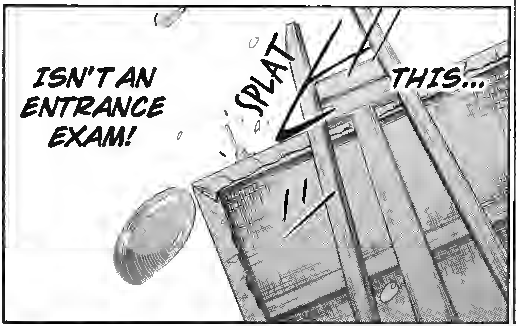
I WANT TO SHOW THEM ALL...

ガシャン
CLANK


CALM DOWN, MASASHI.
YOU'LL NEVER GET IN AT THIS RATE.

JUST PAINT WHAT'S THERE IN FRONT OF YOU.
THAT'S IT, MASASHI.
STOP IT, DAD...
...
YOU NEED TO GET THE FEEL OF THE MEDIUM. MAKE IT CLEAR.
THAT'S NO GOOD, MASA-SHI...





THAT'S NO GOOD.

BLAAGH...
...
BREATHE
YAH!

I PROBABLY KNEW IT BETTER THAN ANYONE...
...

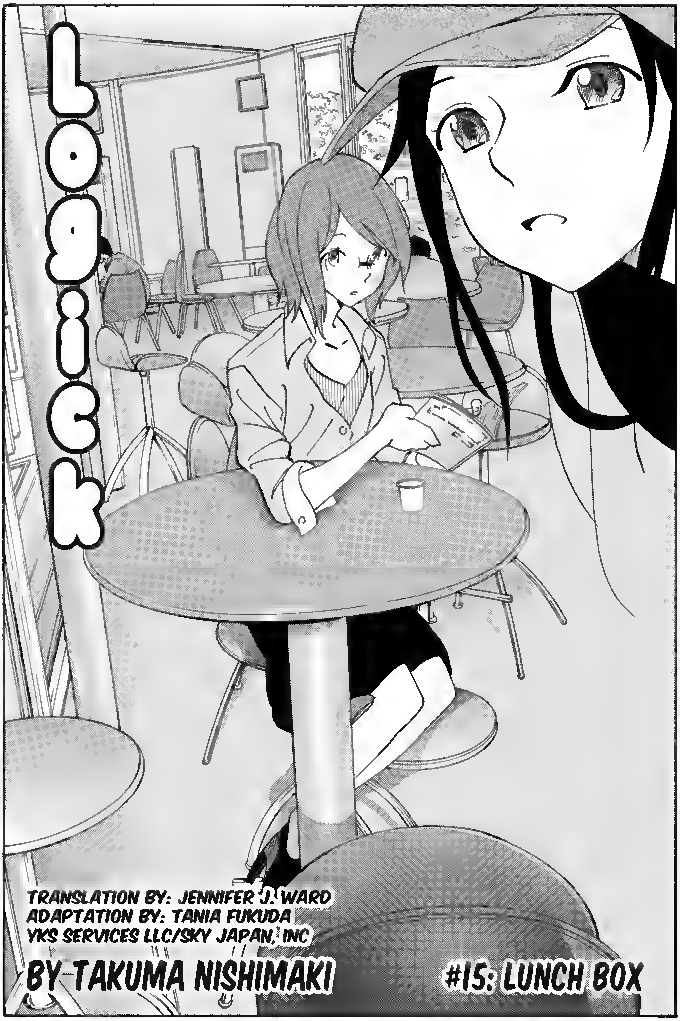
THAT...
ALL I CAN DO IS PAINT FOR ENTRANCE EXAMS...

BUT...

EVEN IF IT'S UNKNOWN TO ME...
I WANT TO PAINT SOME-THING ELSE.

I WANT MY ART...
TO TELL MY STORY...
I WANT TO EXPRESS MYSELF THROUGH PAINTING.
...HUH?
PAINT-ING IS FUN.

PAINTING FREELY...
IS SO MUCH FUN...
CHEEP
CHEEP
CHEEP



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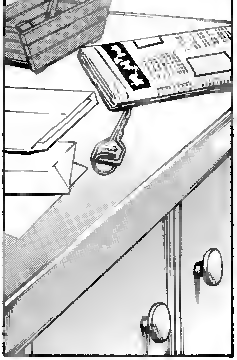
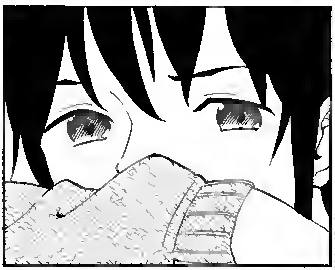
BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI

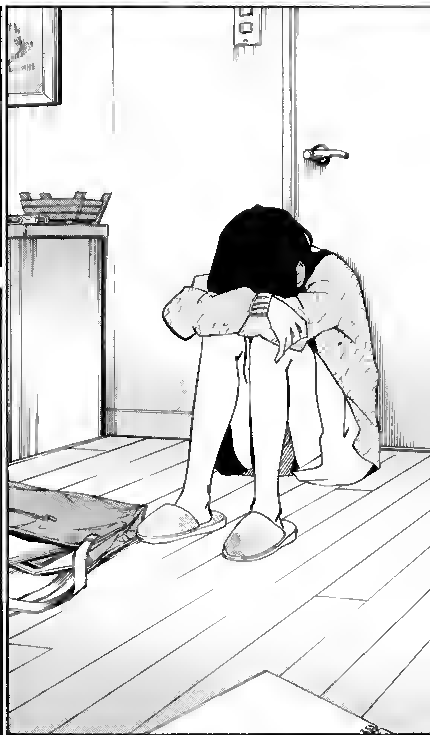
#15: LUNCH BOX

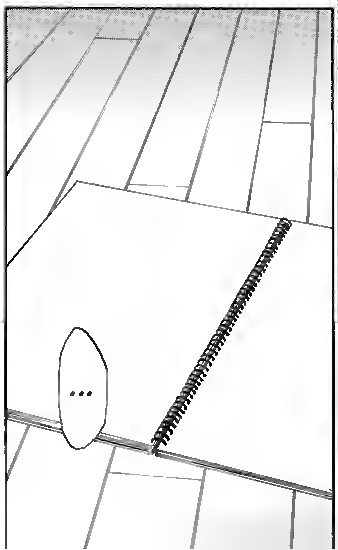


302

AOI SHIONO







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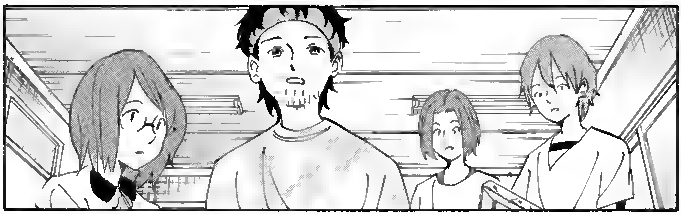
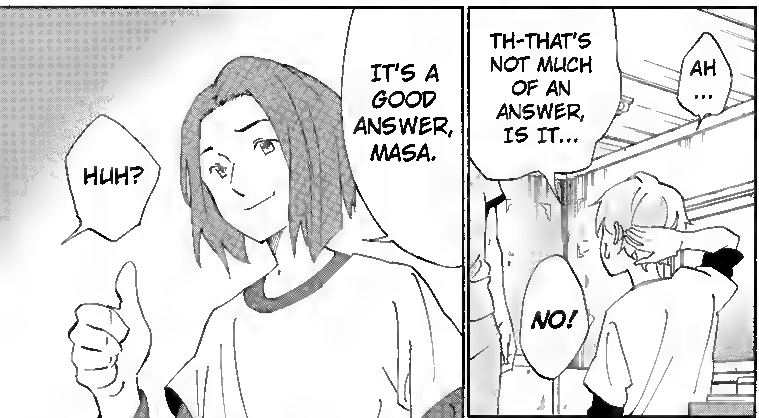
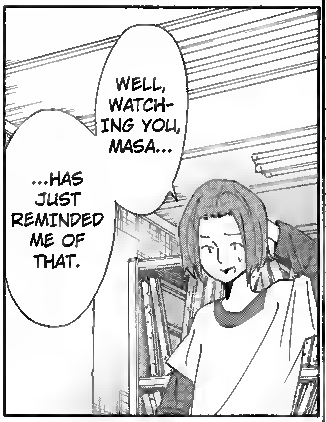
HUH?
YOU'VE PASSED. YOU CAN GO BACK TO YOUR DORM, MASA.
...
I PASSED ...

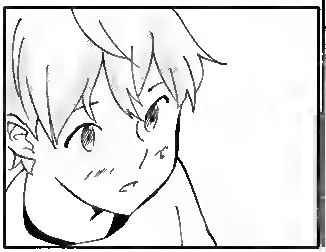
YEAH!
YOU WORKED HARD, MASA.
AND YOU'VE GOTTEN REALLY GOOD.
...
BUT...
HOW DID YOU SUDDENLY PAINT SOMETHING LIKE THIS?
NO...
I JUST ...
THAT PAINTING STILL ISN'T GOOD ENOUGH...

...HAD A LOT OF FUN...
PAINTING IT.




AH...
TH-THAT'S NOT MUCH OF AN ANSWER, IS IT...
NO!
IT'S A GOOD ANSWER, MASA.
HUH?


WELL, WATCHING YOU, MASA...
...HAS JUST REMINDED ME OF THAT.



WELL, BUT...
AREN'T YOU PRAISING HIM A LITTLE TOO MUCH?
IT MIGHT JUST BE A FLUKE.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF ART...
IS THINKING ABOUT WHAT YOU WANT TO EXPRESS,
AND ENJOYING YOUR WORK TO THE FULLEST.
IT'S THE MINIMUM REQUIREMENT FOR AN ARTIST.

MASA-SAN WORKED REALLY HARD ON IT...
N-NO, IT'S NOT!
?
CAN WE GET THIS IN?
MAYBE IF WE TILT IT...
HUH? IT'S NOT?
YOU DON'T THINK IT'S OVER YET, RIGHT, MASA?
YEAH, BUT...

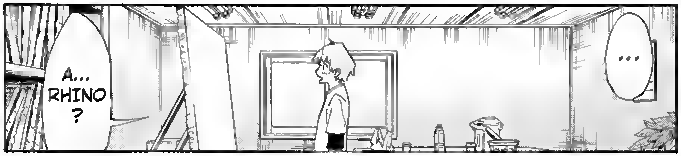
!
H-HUH!?
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS?
IT'S A NUMBER 150 CANVAS.
THIS EXHIBITION IS IN GINZA. WE HAVE TO DO IT RIGHT.

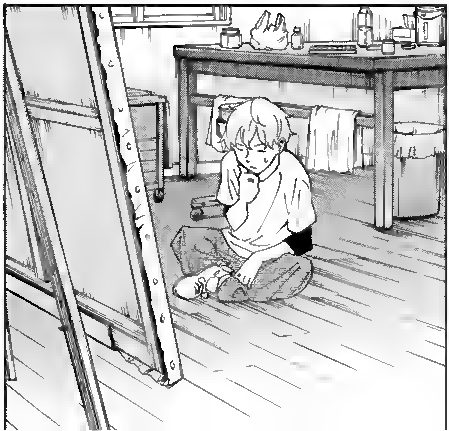
B-BUT I'VE NEVER...
...PAINTED SOMETHING SO LARGE...
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT! PANTING IS FUN, RIGHT?
Y-YEAH, BUT...
UM... HATTORI-SAN.
HM?
AOI-SAN...
...ISN'T AROUND TODAY, IS SHE?
...

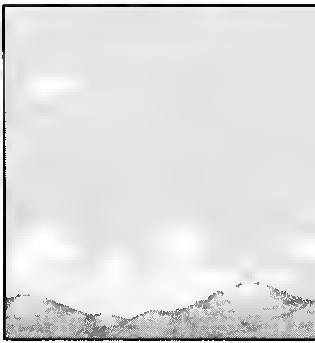
NOW THAT YOU MENTION IT, I HAVEN'T SEEN HER...
!
I-I SEE...
Y-YEAH?
AH-UM!
D-DO YOU MIND IF I KEEP STAYING HERE...
...UNTIL THE EXHIBI-TION?

I'M FINE!
IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE HE HAS A FEVER.
I WANT TO...
...FOCUS ON ART AND ART ALONE RIGHT NOW.

WHAT SHOULD I PAINT?
BUT STILL, IT'S SO BIG...


A... RHINO ?
...



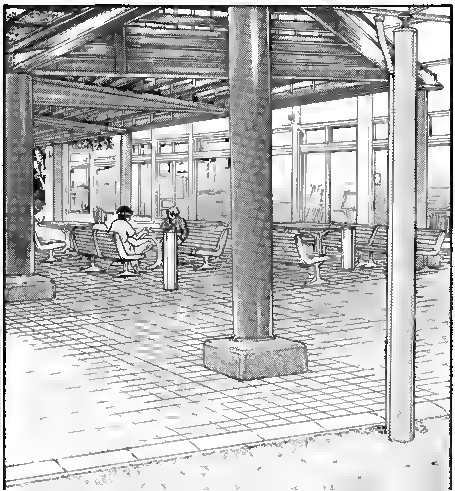


A-ANYWAY, I HAVE TO RELAX...
SWISH
そお
BREATHE
ンン
NO!
THAT WAS TOO SOON! TOO SOON!
CALM DOWN!
RELAX...
AND...
HAVE FUN! DO WHAT YOU WANT!

I HAVE NO IDEA...
WHAT I SHOULD PAINT...
I-I'LL WORK ON IT TOMOR-ROW.

JULY 1ST
ONE MONTH UNTIL THE EXHI-BITION

AHHH!
SO HOT!



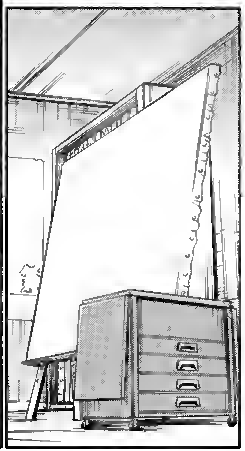
COME ON! WHAT THE HELL IS THIS!?
YOU THINK IT'S THE RAINY SEASON AND NOW IT'S THE MIDDLE OF SUMMER? I DON'T GET IT AT ALL!
SHUT UP.
I DUNNO ABOUT IT...
ASK THE SKY.

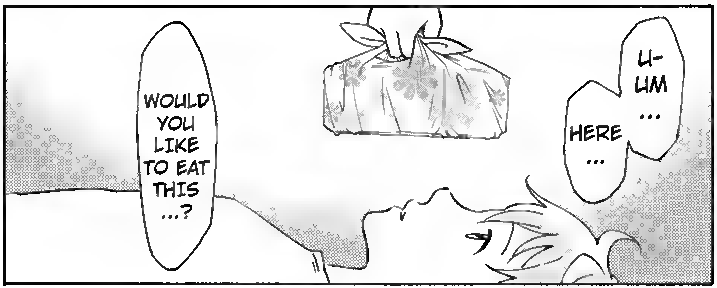
DID YOU MAKE THAT YOURSELF, ERI-CHAN?
HUH? AH, YES...

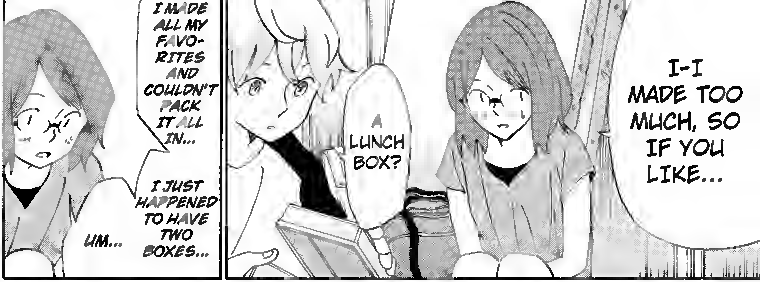
!
YOU'RE EATING TWO LUNCHES?
AH!
AH... I KINDA MADE TOO MUCH... UM...
!
HM...

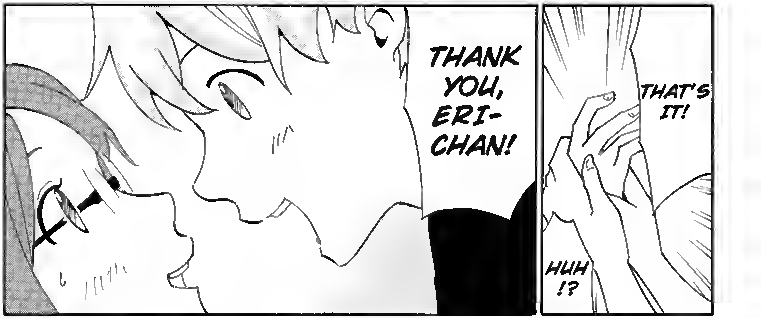
I BET MASA-SAN'S REALLY HUNGRY RIGHT ABOUT NOW...
AH ...
?

I CAN'T PAINT ANY-THING AND I'M HUNGRY ...
RUMBLE RUMBLE

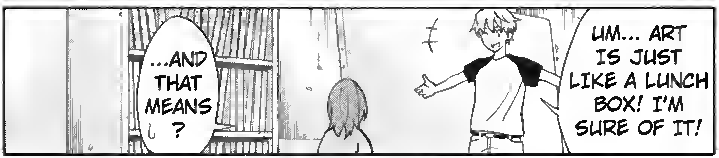



WOULD YOU LIKE TO EAT THIS ...?
U-UM ... HERE ...


I-I MADE TOO MUCH, SO IF YOU LIKE...
A LUNCH BOX?
I JUST HAPPENED TO HAVE TWO BOXES...
I MADE ALL MY FAVO-RITES AND COULDN'T PACK IT ALL IN...
UM...


THANK YOU, ERI-CHAN!
THAT'S IT!
HUH!?

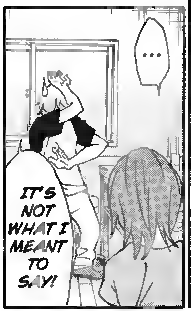
PAINTING IS LIKE A LUNCH BOX!
...HUH?



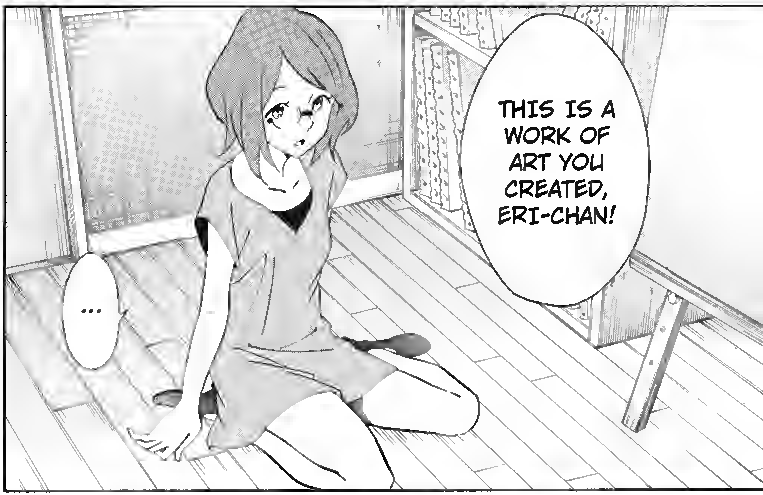
TRANSLATION BY: JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY: TANIA FUKUDA
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI #16: CURRY

THIS LUNCHBOX IS THE CANVAS.
SO...
AND ALL THE ITEMS IN IT ARE LIKE THE OIL PAINTS!
WOW! IT LOOKS GOOD!
BUT YOU KEEP THE PERSON YOU'RE MAKING IT FOR IN MIND...
THIS PICKLED PLUM IS MOST CERTAINLY THE CENTER-PIECE.
AND...
AND MAKE GOOD USE OF COLOR.
THESE MINI TOMATOES ACT AS ACCENT PIECES.
THIS IS A PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE OF A MEAL PLACED AND ARRANGED BY THE PRODUCERS OF THE AUTHOR'S ORIGINAL WORK.


...
IT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT TO SAY!

IT LOOKS ...
REALLY GOOD!


THIS IS A WORK OF ART YOU CREATED, ERI-CHAN!
...

UP 'TILL NOW, I'VE JUST BEEN FOCUSING ON NUTRI-TION...
AND HAVEN'T MADE LUNCHES THAT TASTE ANY GOOD...

O-OF COURSE, GO AHEAD!
CAN I EAT THIS?
...
RUMBLE
DID YOU MAKE ALL OF THIS, ERI-CHAN?
Y-YES, BASI-CALLY...
IT'S REALLY GOOD!
!
THEN I'LL MAKE ANOTHER ONE FOR YOU SOME-TIME!

I'M GONNA PAINT A DELI-CIOUS LUNCH!
OKAY!
YES!
YEAH, YEAH!
THAT'S IT!

SHAKE
N-NO!
SHAKE
すぅ——
INHALE
はぁ——
EXHALE
I'M GONNA PAINT...
WHAT I WANT... MORE FREELY.

HEH ...
I'M A LUNCH BOX BOY!
... HUH?
HUH?
I'M...
NOT GONNA MAKE IT IN TIME WITH THIS, AM I?
AND...
7
July
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr Sat
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

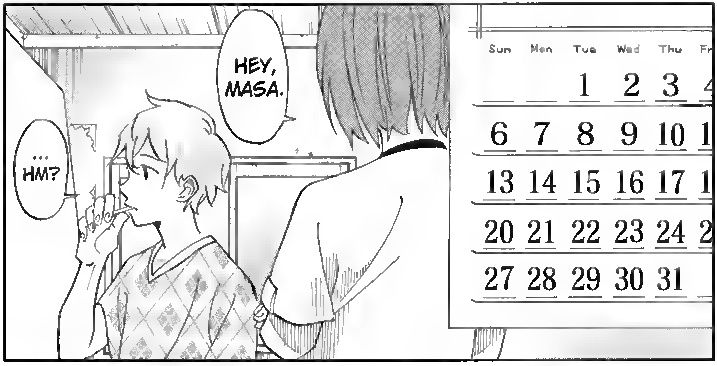
I'M HOT AND I DON'T WANNA DO ANY-THING...
AN ELEC-TRIC FAN..?

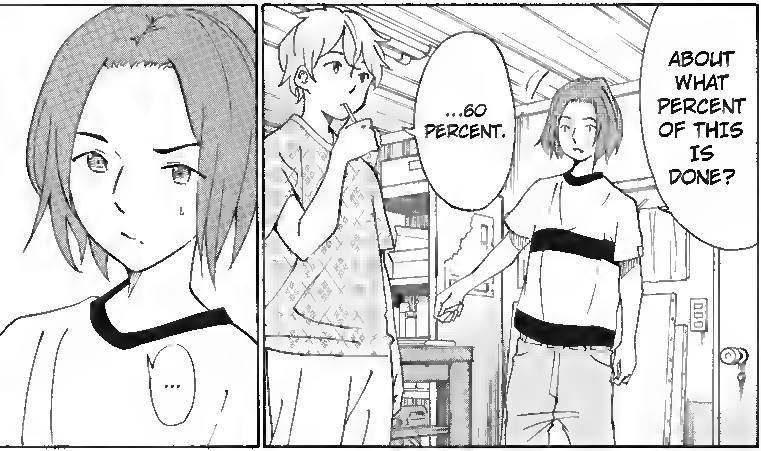
WHIRR
AH!
MAYBE I CAN WORK A LITTLE HARDER NOW.
IT'S A HUGE MESS IN HERE...
PHEW ...

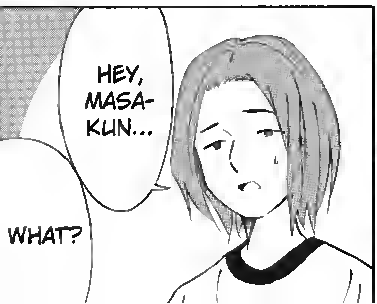
HELLO!
H-HI...
HEY!
WHAT'S UP? PAINTING AGAIN, TODAY?
YES.
IT'S NOT LONG UNTIL THE EXHIBITION.
COOL! I'LL COME SEE THE EXHIBITION, SO GIVE IT YOUR BEST SHOT!
I-I WILL!
THANK YOU!
HM... LIVING LIKE THIS ISN'T SO BAD...

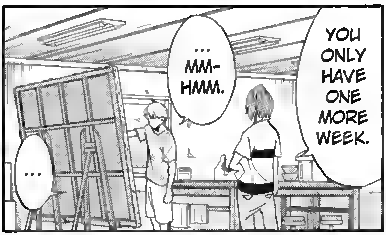
I NEED TO TONE DOWN THE FLAVOR OF THIS SAUSAGE...
AH! NO!

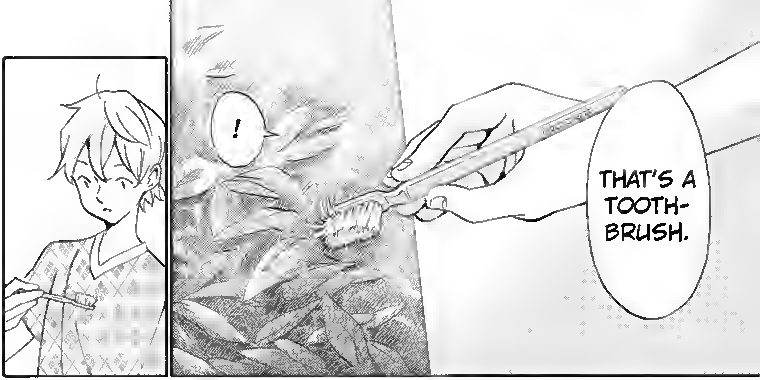
July
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat
1 2 3 4 5
6 7 8 9 10 11 12
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31
Wed Thu Fri Sat
2 3 4 5
9 10 11 12
16 17 18 19
23 24 25 26
30 31
Mon

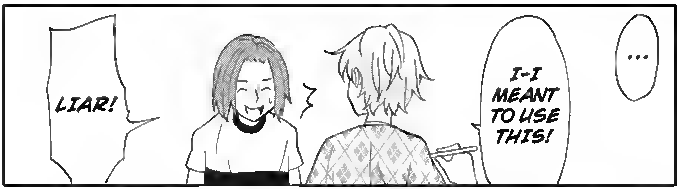

HEY, MASA.
... HM?
Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fr
1 2 3 4
6 7 8 9 10 1
13 14 15 16 17 1
20 21 22 23 24 2
27 28 29 30 31


...
...60 PERCENT.
ABOUT WHAT PERCENT OF THIS IS DONE?


HEY, MASA-KUN...
WHAT?

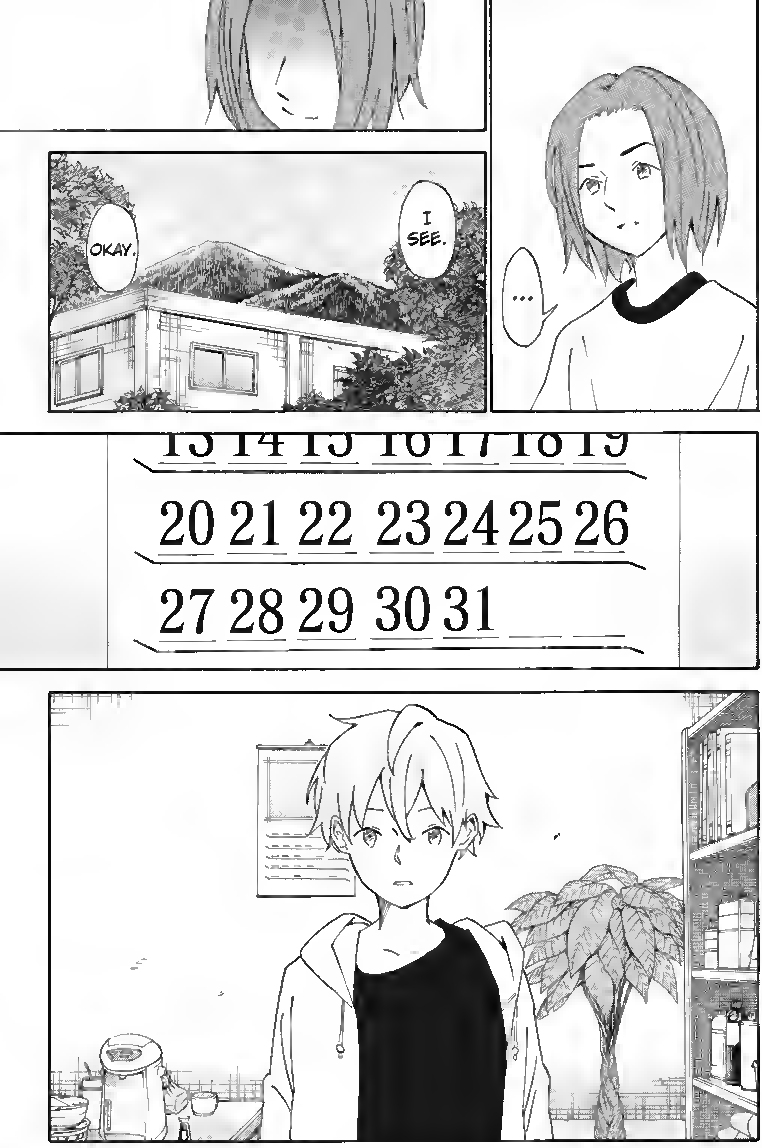

...
... MM-HMM.
YOU ONLY HAVE ONE MORE WEEK.


!
THAT'S A TOOTH-BRUSH.

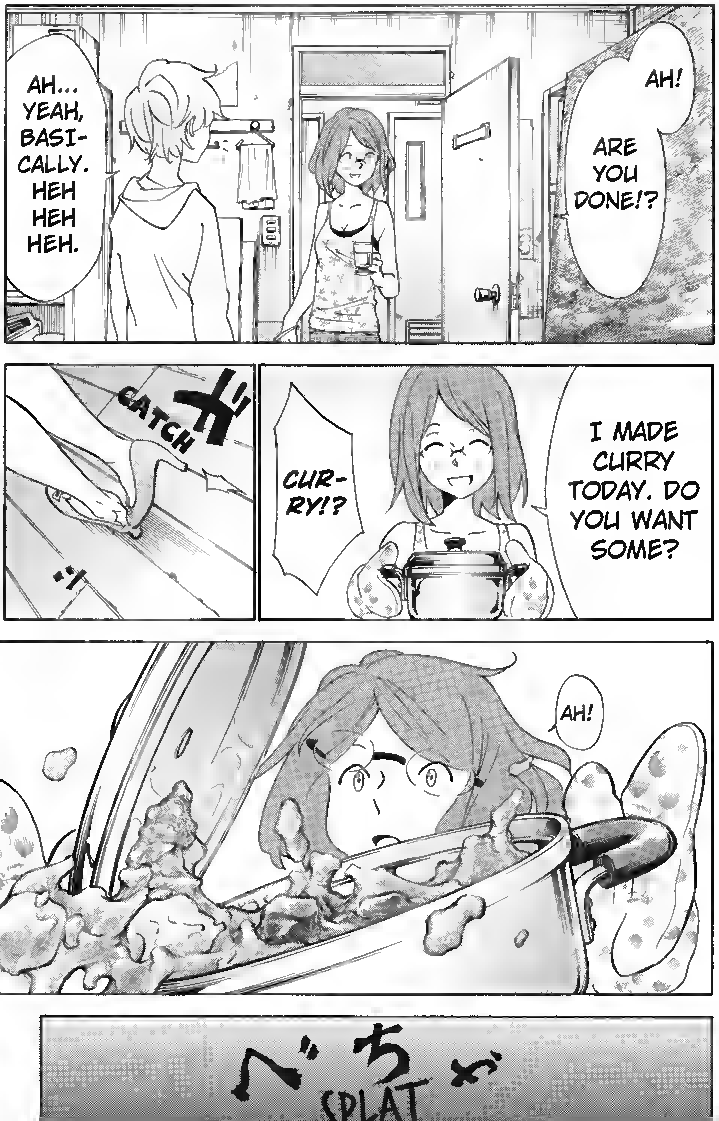

LIAR!
I-I MEANT TO USE THIS!
...

...A SINGLE PAINTING THAT I'M SATISFIED WITH.
I WANT TO FINISH WITH...

I KNOW YOU'RE RUNNING OUT OF TIME, BUT...
YOU NEED TO SLEEP ...
YEAH, BUT...

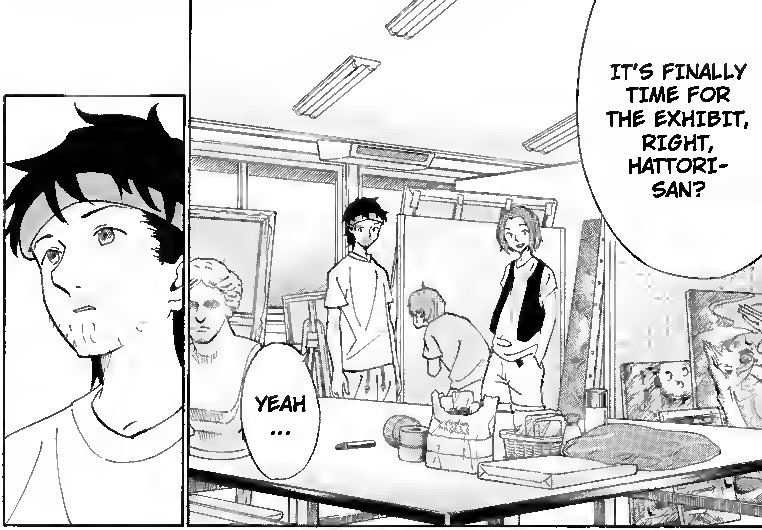

OKAY.
I SEE.
...
13 14 15 16 17 18 19
20 21 22 23 24 25 26
27 28 29 30 31

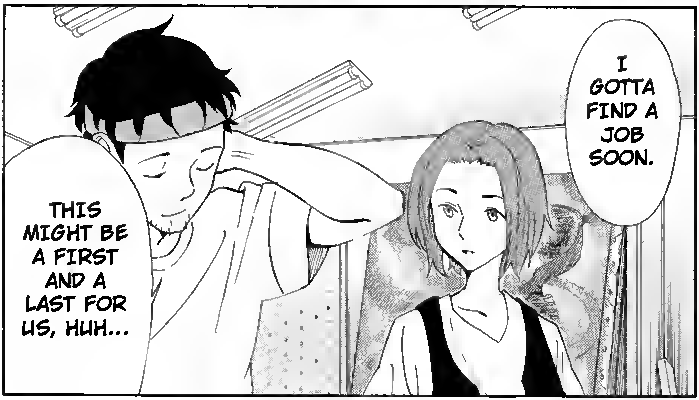
...
I THINK I'M DONE...

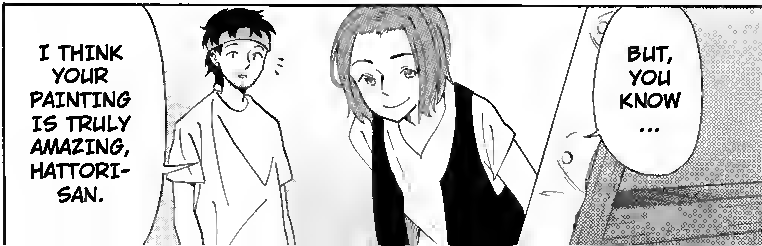

AH...
YEAH,
BASI-
CALLY.
HEH
HEH
HEH.
AH!
ARE
YOU
DONE!?
CATCH
CUR-
RY!?
I MADE
CURRY
TODAY. DO
YOU WANT
SOME?
AH!
べちゃ
SPLAT

SHINYA-SAN, HERE'S SOME BUBBLE WRAP.
OH, THANK YOU.
LOGICK
TRANSLATION BY: TAMA FUKUDA
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC
BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI
#17: EXHIBITION DAY.

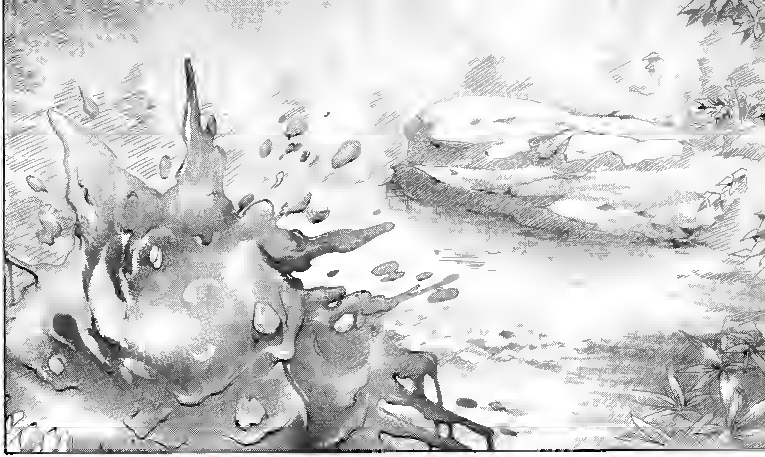
SHINYA-SAN, YOU'RE REALLY TALENTED AFTER ALL.
YOU THINK SO?
YES!
HERE'S 100 YEN.*
THANK YOU.
*APPROXIMATELY EQUAL TO 1USD
WHAT DO YOU THINK OF MINE, MISHIMA!
OH ...
I GUESS IT'S ALRIGHT?
ボコッ!
THUMP!
SNI-CKER!


IT'S FINALLY TIME FOR THE EXHIBIT, RIGHT, HATTORI-SAN?
YEAH ...


I GOTTA FIND A JOB SOON.
THIS MIGHT BE A FIRST AND A LAST FOR US, HUH...

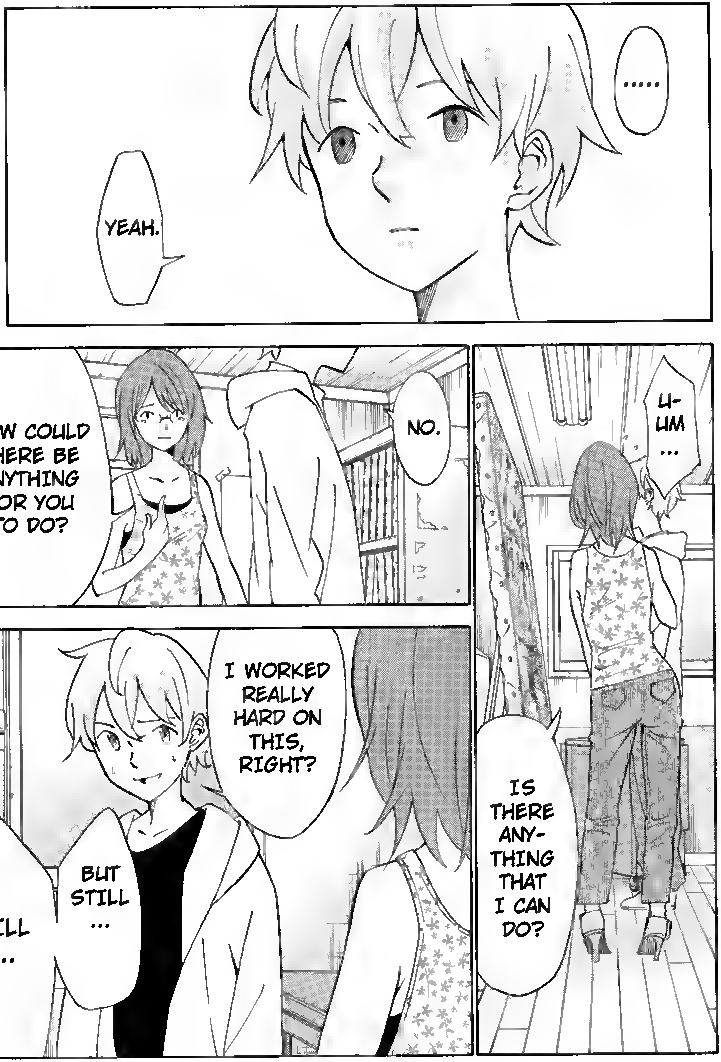

BUT, YOU KNOW ...
I THINK YOUR PAINTING IS TRULY AMAZING, HATTORI-SAN.

IT SAYS, "THIS MAY WELL BE MY LAST, SO I GAVE IT MY ALL..."
"WITH NO ROOM FOR REGRETS!"
WOW!
IT REALLY EXPRES-SES...
WHAT YOU WANTED IT TO EXPRESS.
ONLY YOU WOULD UNDERS-TAND, SHINYA!
THAT'S SO DEEP, HUH...

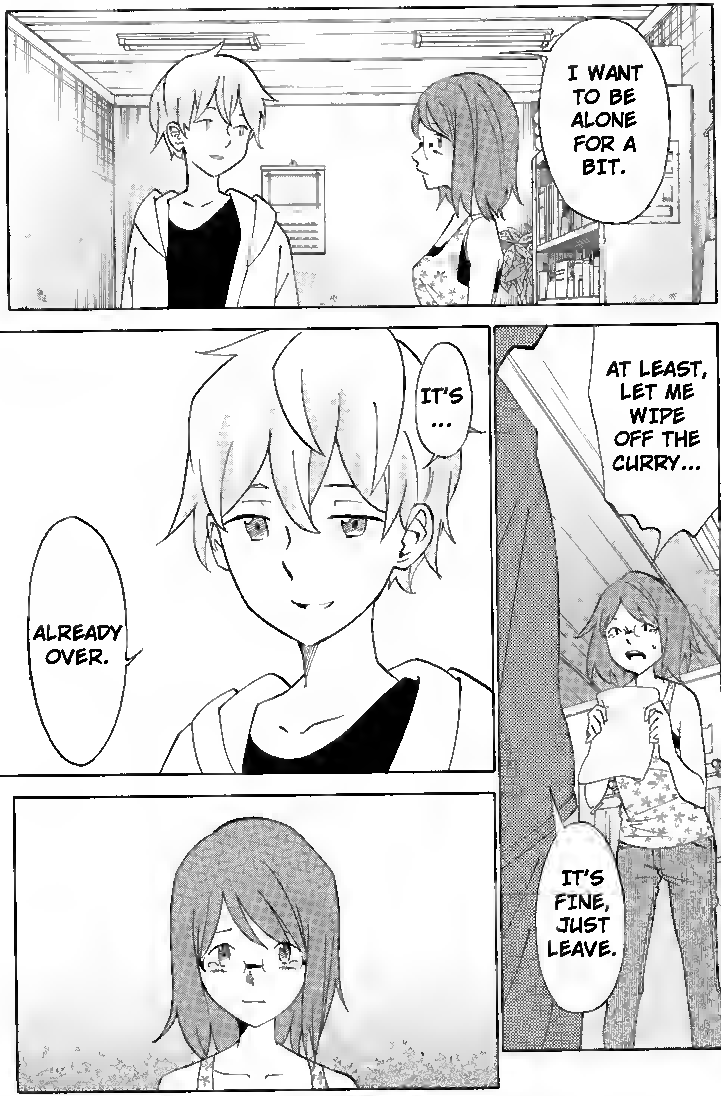


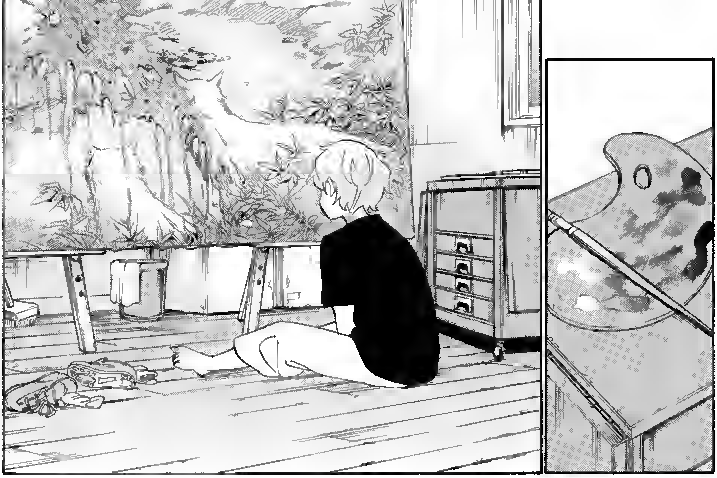
.....

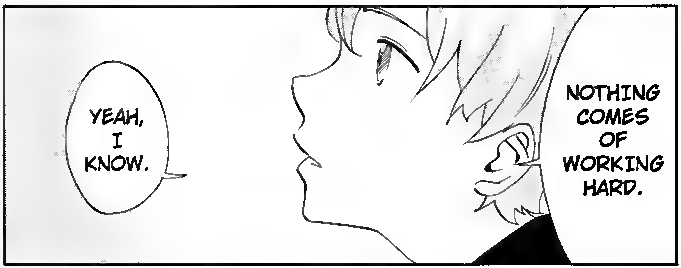
I'M TRUU UUUU UULY ...
SO OO OO RY!

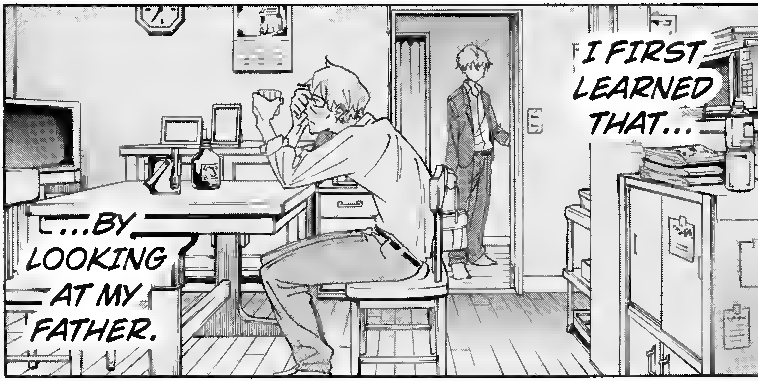

.....
YEAH.
U-UM ...
IS THERE ANY-THING THAT I CAN DO?
NO.
HOW COULD THERE BE ANYTHING FOR YOU TO DO?
I WORKED REALLY HARD ON THIS, RIGHT?
BUT STILL ...
STILL .....

NOW, ALL OF IT ...
ALL OF IT WAS FOR NOO-OOO-THING.
AH ...
.....
I'M SORRY ...
ACTUALLY, WOULD YOU MIND LEAVING?

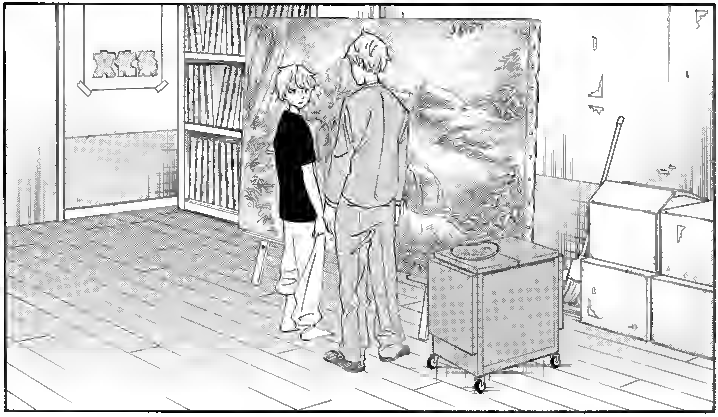

I WANT TO BE ALONE FOR A BIT.
AT LEAST, LET ME WIPE OFF THE CURRY...
IT'S FINE, JUST LEAVE.
IT'S ...
ALREADY OVER.

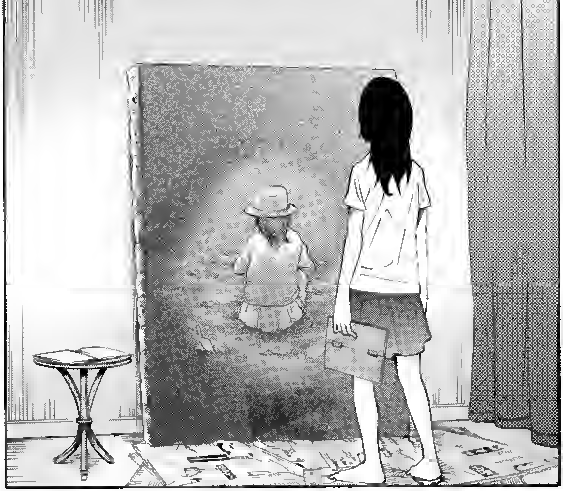


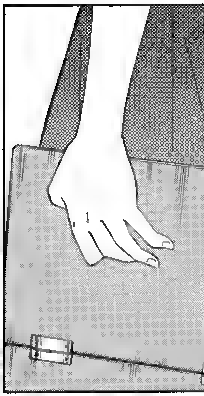

NOTHING COMES OF WORKING HARD.
YEAH, I KNOW.


I FIRST LEARNED THAT...
...BY LOOKING AT MY FATHER.

I'M AN ...
IDIOT.



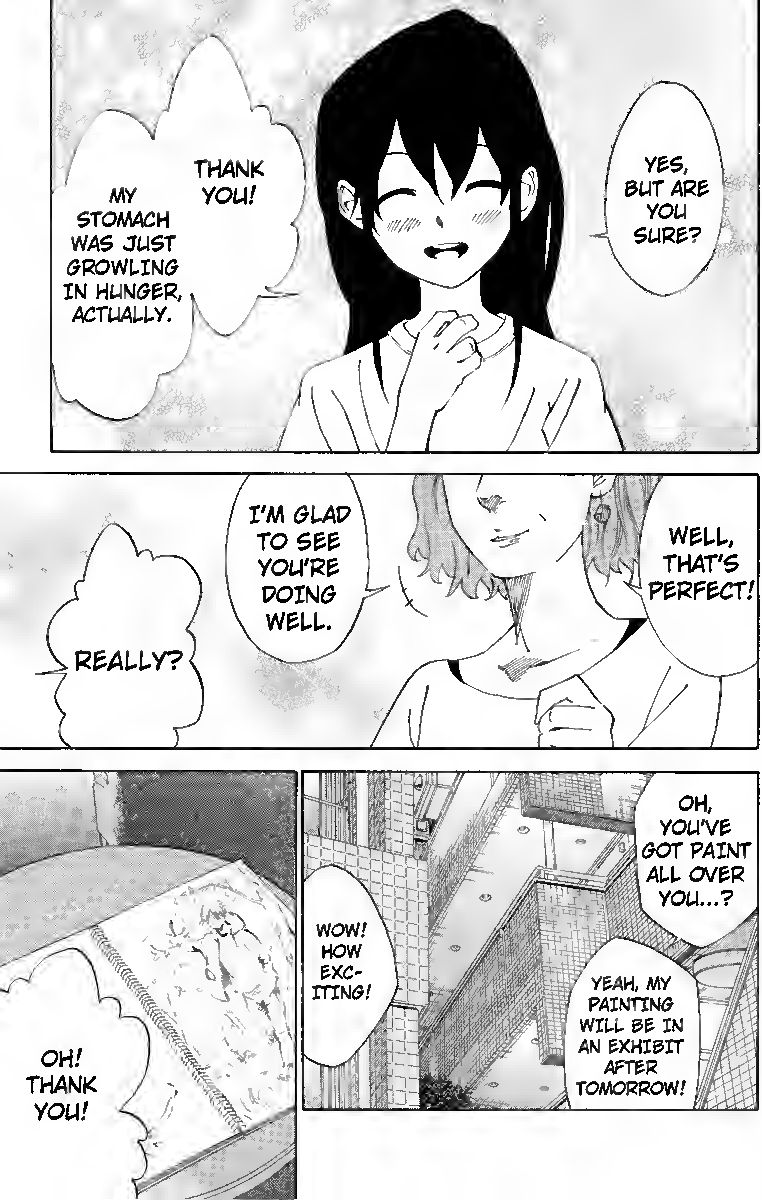




DING DONG

YES, MY NAME IS KATO.
WOULD YOU LIKE SOME OF THIS?
.....

!
YOU LIVE NEXT-DOOR ...


YES, BUT ARE YOU SURE?
THANK YOU!
MY STOMACH WAS JUST GROWLING IN HUNGER, ACTUALLY.
WELL, THAT'S PERFECT!
I'M GLAD TO SEE YOU'RE DOING WELL.
REALLY?
OH, YOU'VE GOT PAINT ALL OVER YOU...?
YEAH, MY PAINTING WILL BE IN AN EXHIBIT AFTER TOMORROW!
WOW! HOW EXC-ITING!
OH! THANK YOU!

YES ...
WHA... CURRY ...?

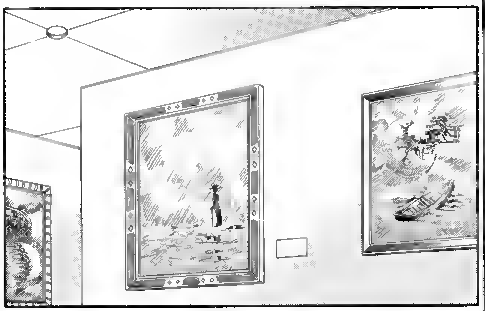
CURRY HUH ...
.....

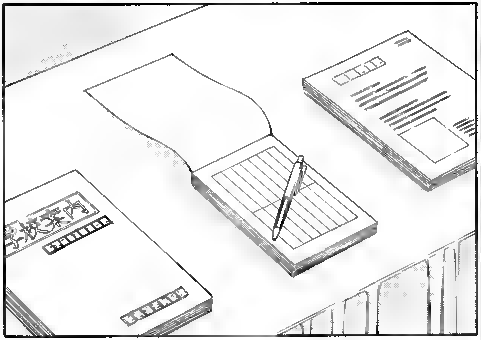
SOB
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
SOB
.....

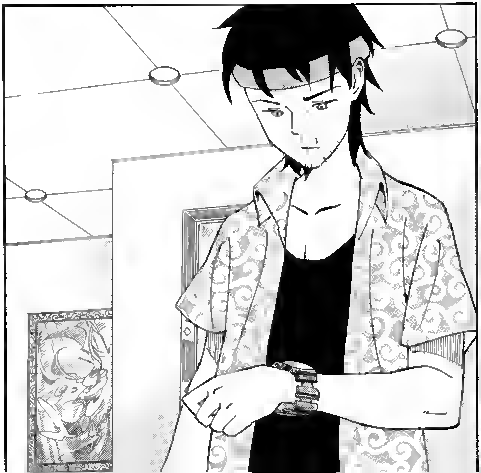
HE...
DON'T LAUGH ...

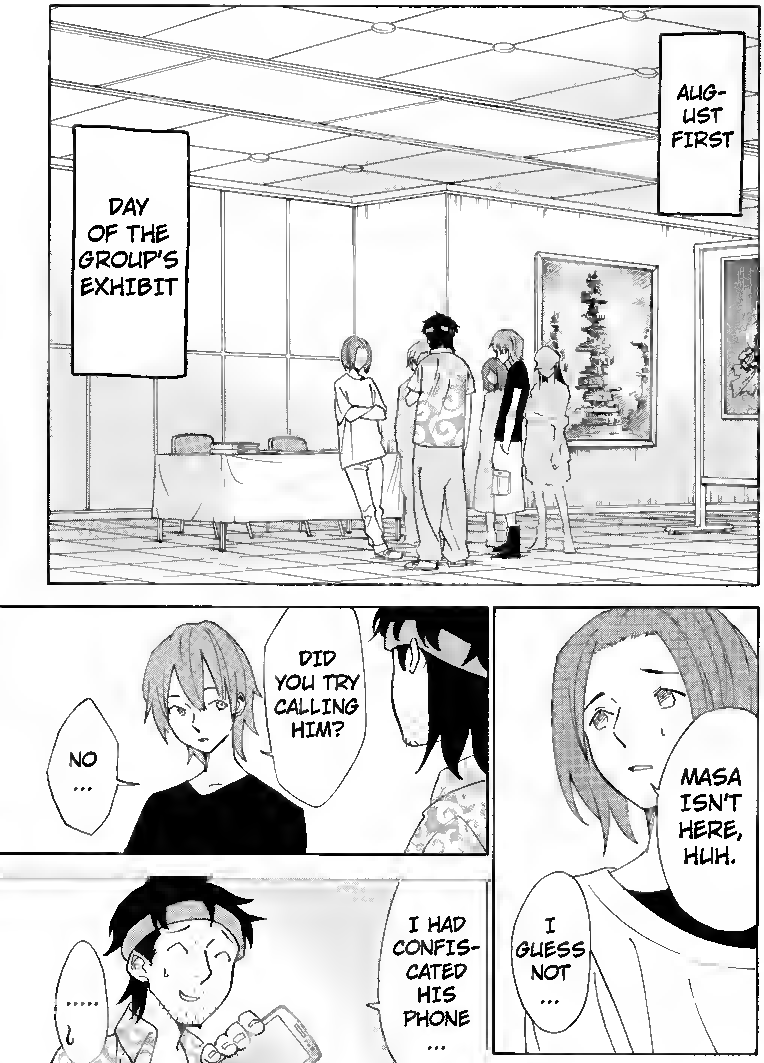
HAT-TORI-SAN.
IT'S ALMOST TIME ...

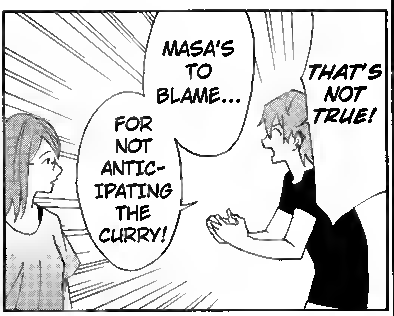
AT ANY RATE, PUT YOUR PAINTING IN HERE, ERI-CHAN.
LET'S INSTALL IT FIRST.
BUT ...
WE'LL FIGURE SOMETHING OUT FOR MASA LATER.
FOR NOW, THIS COMES FIRST.
OKAY ...
WHAT! WE'RE OUT OF GAS!
HUH?! MISHIMA, GO BUY SOME!!
WHY ME?!



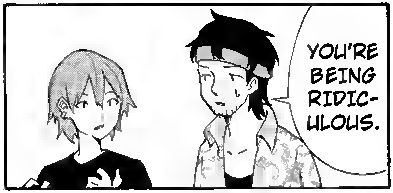


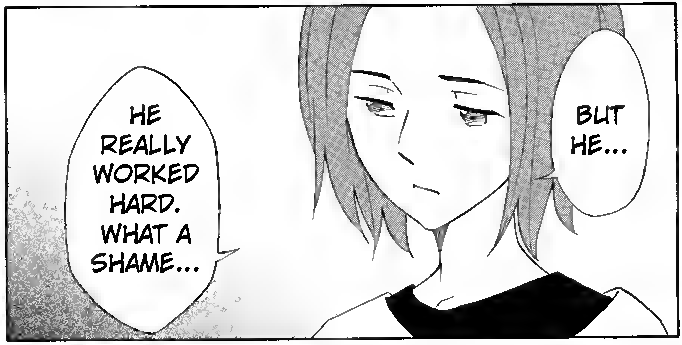


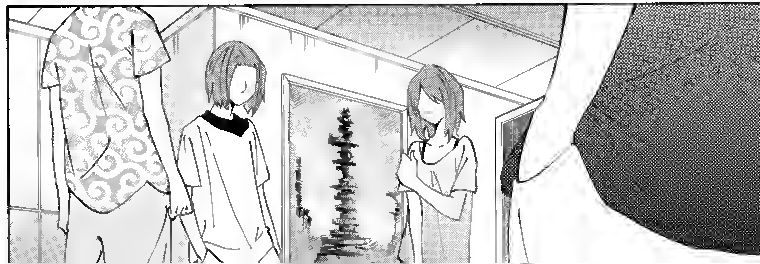

AUG-UST FIRST
DAY OF THE GROUP'S EXHIBIT
MASA ISN'T HERE, HUH.
I GUESS NOT ...
DID YOU TRY CALLING HIM?
NO ...
I HAD CONFIS-CATED HIS PHONE ...
.....


MASA'S TO BLAME...
FOR NOT ANTIC-IPATING THE CURRY!
THAT'S NOT TRUE!

I'M TO BLAME.
I SHOULD-N'T HAVE...


YOU'RE BEING RIDIC-ULOUS.

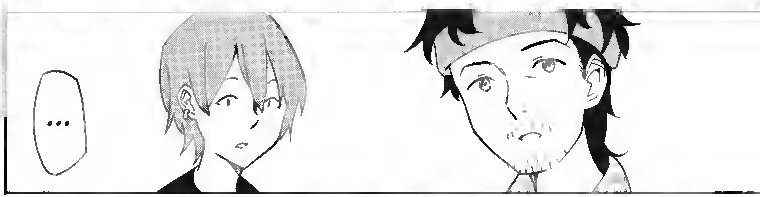

HE REALLY WORKED HARD. WHAT A SHAME...
BUT HE...



BUT ...
RIGHT?
HE ISN'T COMING.
HE RAN AWAY.
CLAP
CLAP!
ALL RIGHT! LET'S GET READY!
I DIDN'T RUN!
HE MUST BE HAPPY ...
THAT HE WAS ABLE TO COME UP WITH A GOOD EXCUSE.

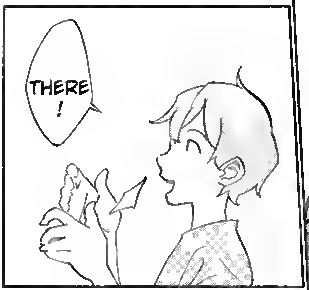
I'M SORRY I'M LATE.
PANT
はぁ
PANT
はぁ
9F
I MADE IT IN TIME, RIGHT?
*GALLERY SPACE

TRANSLATION BY: JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY: TANIA FUKUDA
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC



READ MANGA AT MANGADOG.NET FOR THE BEST MANGA READING EXPERIENCE

SORRY FOR BEING SO HARSH BEFORE, ERI-CHAN.
HUH? AH... NO...
I-I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD BE APOLOGIZ-ING...
OKAY, THEN, HATTORI-SAN. LET'S GET THIS UP RIGHT AWAY.
O-OKAY!
...


THERE!

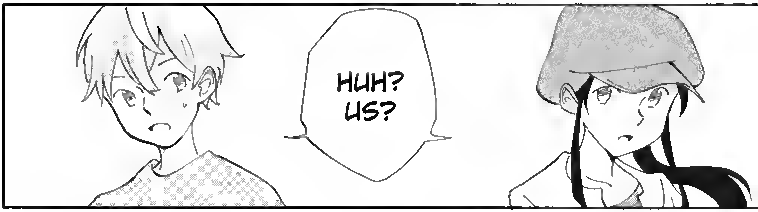
THAT'S AN AMAZING PAINTING!
WOW, MASA!
H-HATTORI-SAN...

I FEEL A LITTLE MOVED.
YEAH.
THIS IS GREAT, MASA-SAN.
AH-LIM...
BUT HOW...
HELPED ME.
MY DAD...

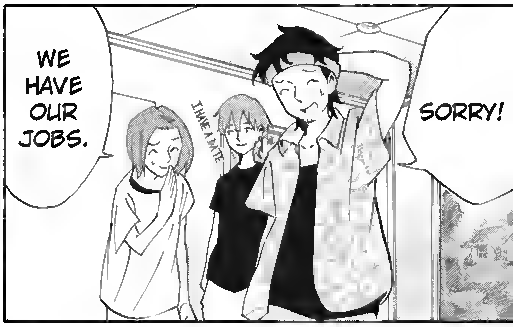
NOT AGAIN ...
MASA-SHI.
EVEN IF YOU THINK IT'S OVER NOW, KEEP PAINT-ING.
FACE UP TO THE PAINT-ING, RIGHT UP UNTIL THE LAST STROKE.
DAD...

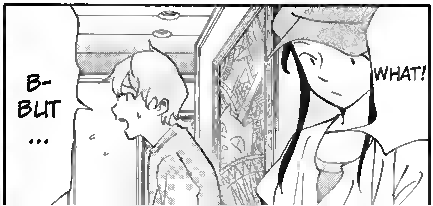
I HATED MY DAD SO MUCH, BUT...
HIS ADVICE WAS USEFUL, IN THE END.
HEY, IT'S STARTING IN FIVE MINUTES.
MEN!
HURRY UP AND GET READY!
SWOOP
Y-YES, SIR!
WHAT!?
MASA!
Y-YES!?
AOI-CHAN!
YES?

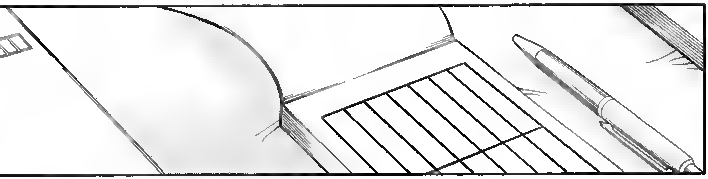
YOU TWO TAKE CARE OF RECEP-TION!

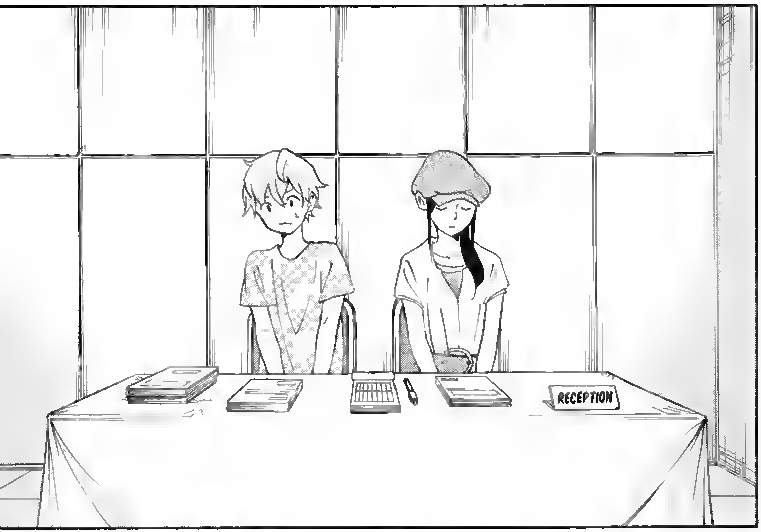

HUH? US?

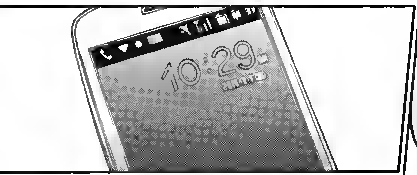
OKAY!
I'M COUNTING ON YOU!


WE HAVE OUR JOBS.
TIME A MAN
SORRY!


B-BUT ...
WHAT!



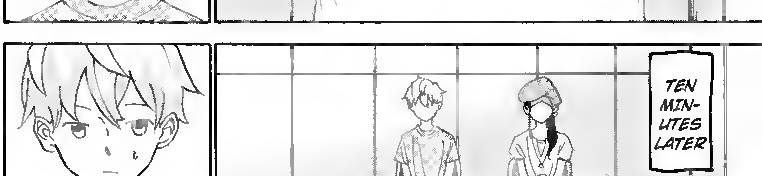

RECEPTION


10:29

W-WHY DID THIS HAVE TO HAPPEN TO ME...

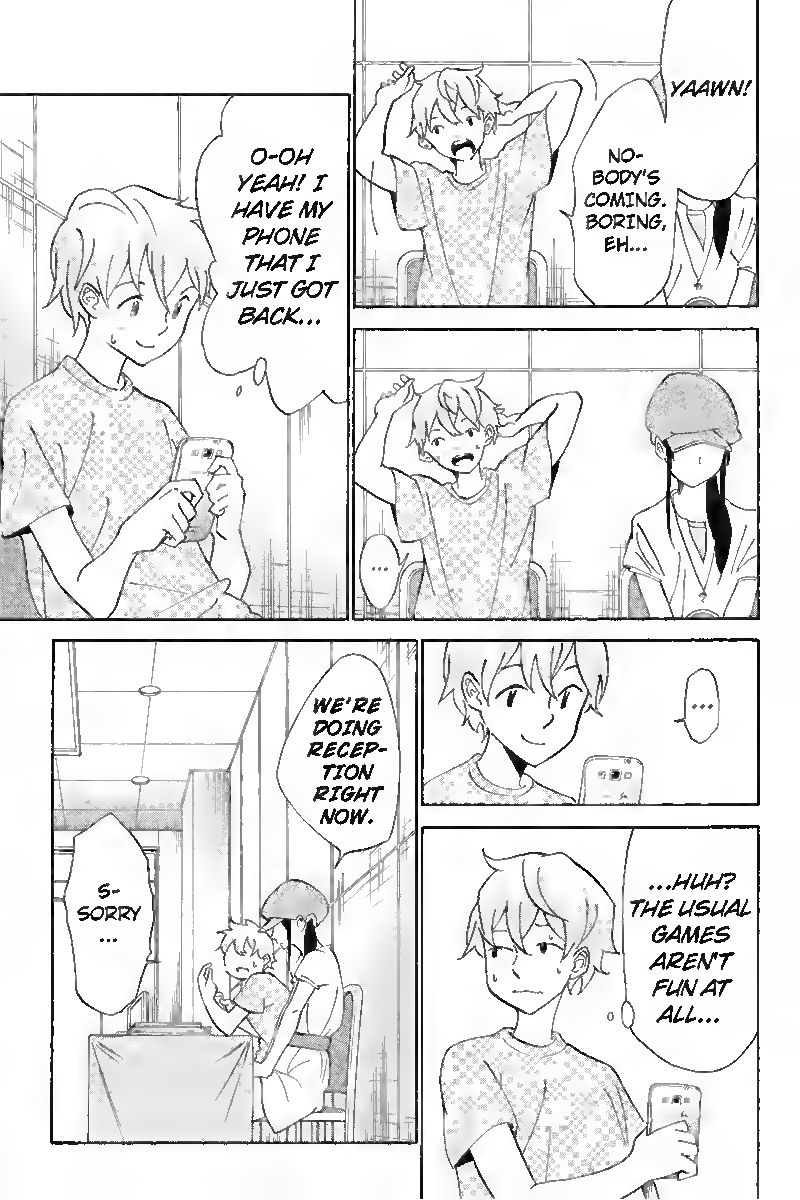
...ONE MORE MINUTE AND PEOPLE WILL BE COMING IN!

FIVE MIN-UTES LATER


TEN MIN-UTES LATER

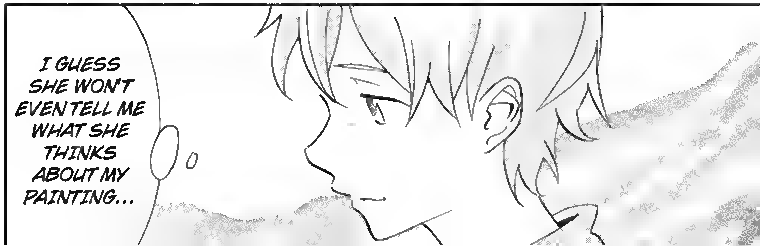
FIF-TEEN MIN-UTES LATER

NOBODY'S COMING...
...
THIS IS AWK-WARD...


YAAWN!
NO-BODY'S COMING. BORING, EH...
O-OH YEAH! I HAVE MY PHONE THAT I JUST GOT BACK...
...
...
...HUH? THE USUAL GAMES AREN'T FUN AT ALL...
WE'RE DOING RECEP-TION RIGHT NOW.
S-SORRY ...

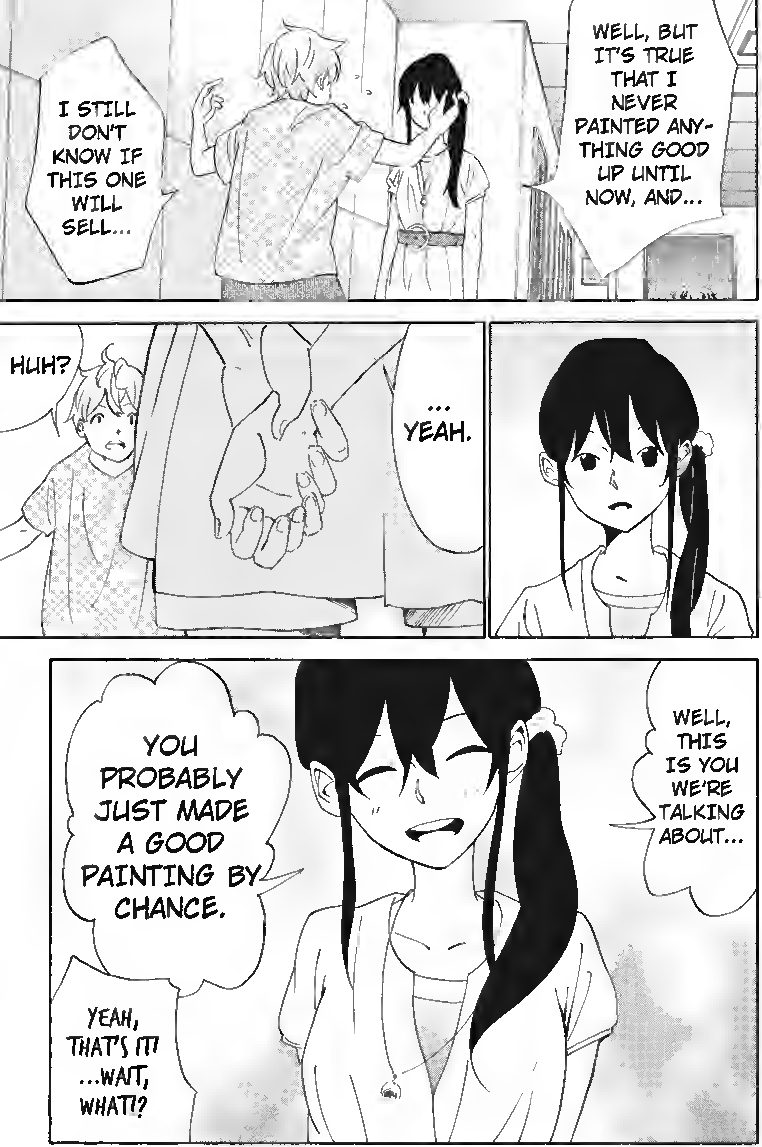
...

SO...
HAVE FUN DOING THAT ON YOUR OWN.

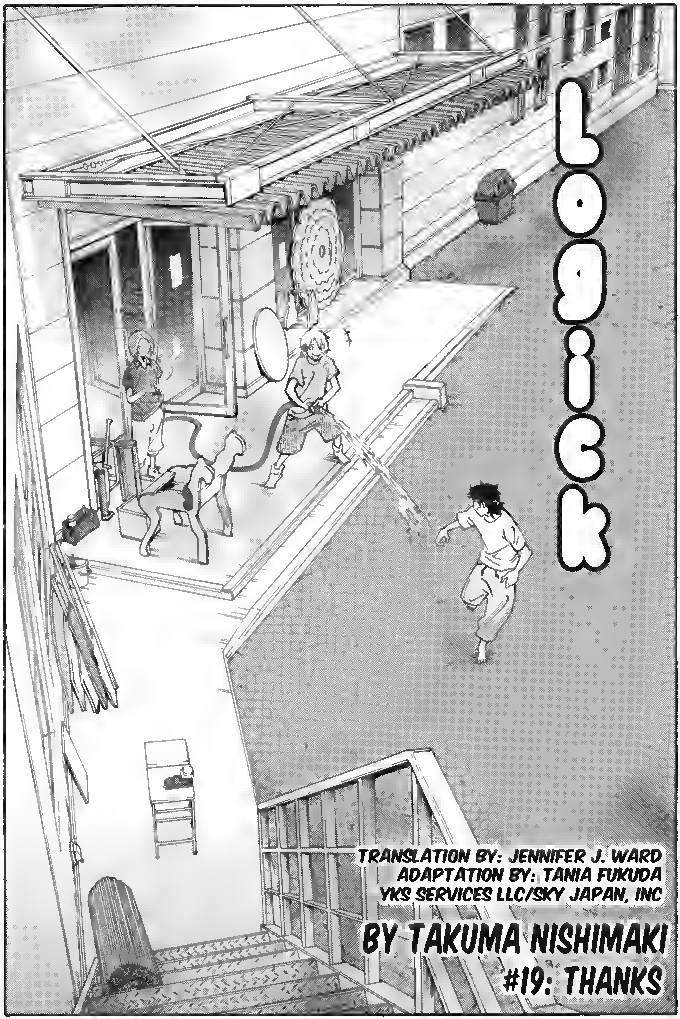

I GUESS SHE WON'T EVEN TELL ME WHAT SHE THINKS ABOUT MY PAINTING...

AH! PEOPLE! NOBODY'S COMING, HUH!
YEAH!
...
UM... MASA-SAN.
HUH? YES!?
...ER.
PLOP
HUH?
YOUR PAINTING IS REALLY GOOD, TEACHER.

I'M SORRY I SAID YOU COULDN'T MAKE ANY...
GOOD PAINT-INGS.
YOUR PAINTING IS SO GOOD...
I'M EMBAR-RASSED.
A-AOI-SAN!?
I'M EMBAR-RASSED.


I STILL DON'T KNOW IF THIS ONE WILL SELL...
WELL, BUT IT'S TRUE THAT I NEVER PAINTED ANY-THING GOOD UP UNTIL NOW, AND...
HUH?
...YEAH.
YOU PROBABLY JUST MADE A GOOD PAINTING BY CHANCE.
WELL, THIS IS YOU WE'RE TALKING ABOUT...
YEAH, THAT'S IT! ...WAIT, WHAT!?

EXCUSE ME!
...
HEY, TEACH-ER...
DO YOU KNOW WHY I PAINT?
HUH?
DO I JUST WRITE MY NAME HERE?
!
Y-YES!
RIGHT HERE, PLEASE!



TRANSLATION BY: JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY: TANIA FUKUDA
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC

BY TAKUMA NISHIMAKI

#19: THANKS

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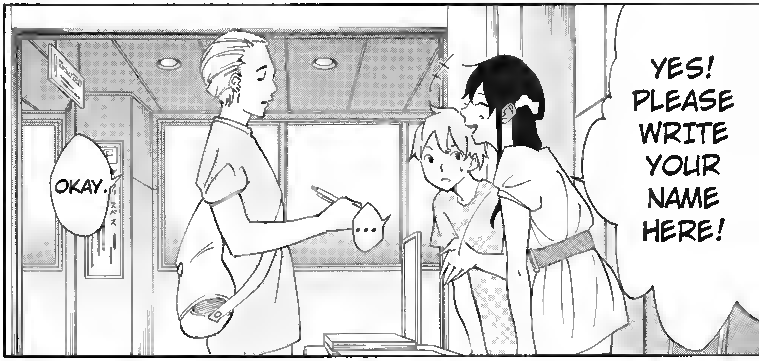
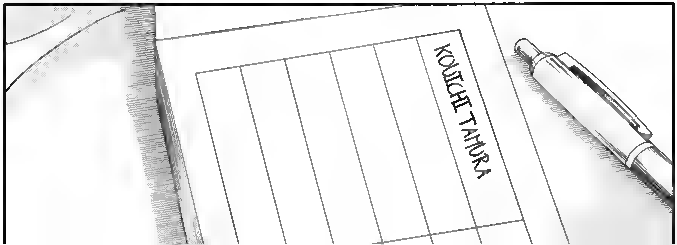




THE FIRST PERSON FINALLY CAME...
YEAH.
HUH? IS SHE MAD ABOUT SOME-THING NOW?
AH...
HE'S GOTTA BE LOOKING AT MY PAINTING RIGHT NOW...
slip
STARE
...HUH?

YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'RE ENJOY-ING YOUR-SELF.
?
DIDN'T YOU...
USED TO HATE THE IDEA OF JOINING THE EXHI-BITION?
...
A LITTLE
YEAH... MAYBE THAT'S TRUE...!
?

BUT FOR SOME REASON, I ENJOYED PAINTING...
AND FOR SOME REASON I'VE BEEN LOOKING FORWARD TO THE EXHIBITION.
AND NOW...
I'D LIKE TO HAVE LOTS OF PEOPLE SEE MY WORK.
YOU'RE A LITTLE ANNOYING, THOUGH.
HUH!? WH- WHY!?

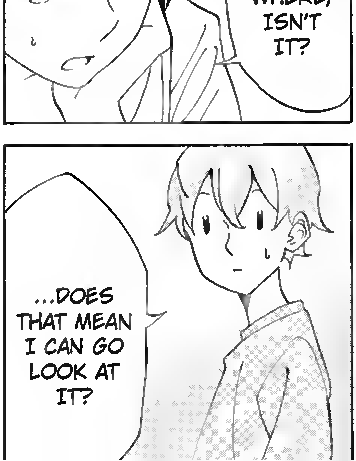
...

I JUST DON'T GET GIRLS...
OR IS IT JUST AOI-SAN?

NO REASON.
I DUNNO.

...IT'S AROUND HERE SOME-WHERE, ISN'T IT?

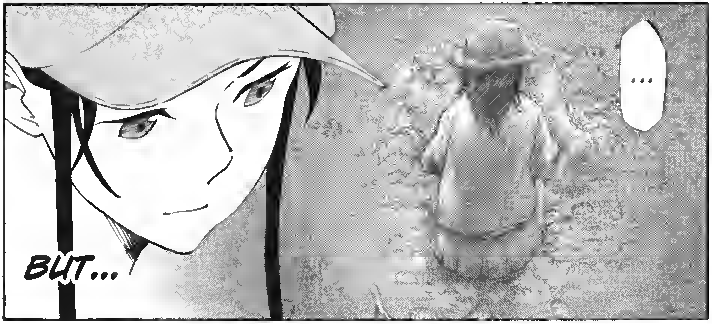
!
O-OH YEAH, WHERE'S YOUR PAINTING, AOI-SAN?

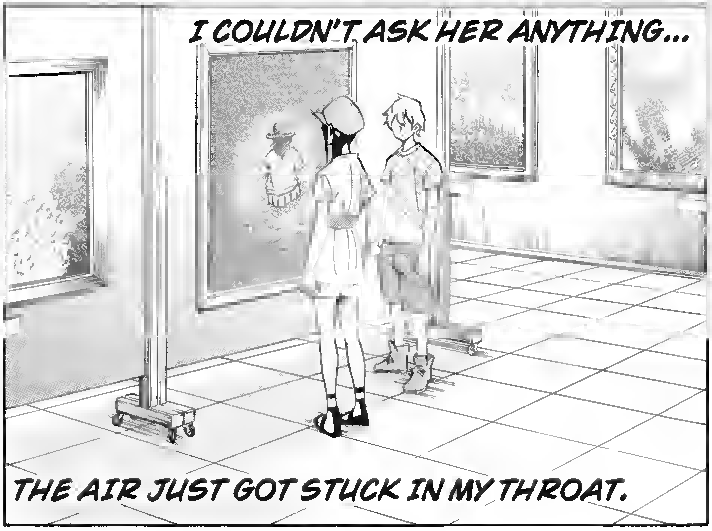

...DOES THAT MEAN I CAN GO LOOK AT IT?

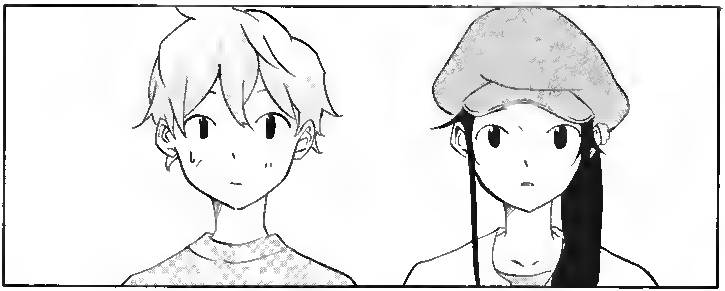
D-
DARK
...
THIS IS...
HOW I USED TO BE.
...HOW YOU USED TO BE?

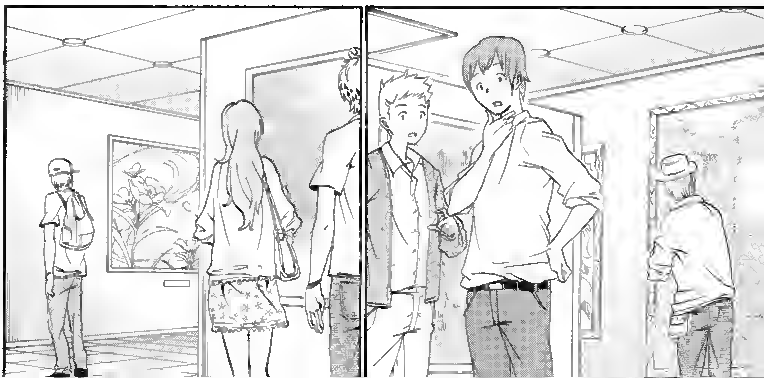
THIS MEMORY ...
AND THAT SKETCH-BOOK ARE MY ONLY CLUES.
CLUES?
SO THIS IS...
MY THANKS FOR PARTICI-PATING IN THE EXHI-BITION.
HUH? WELL...
YOU SAID THAT...
I WAS NOTHING BUT SECRETS.

...WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?


...
BUT...


I COULDN'T ASK HER ANYTHING...
THE AIR JUST GOT STUCK IN MY THROAT.



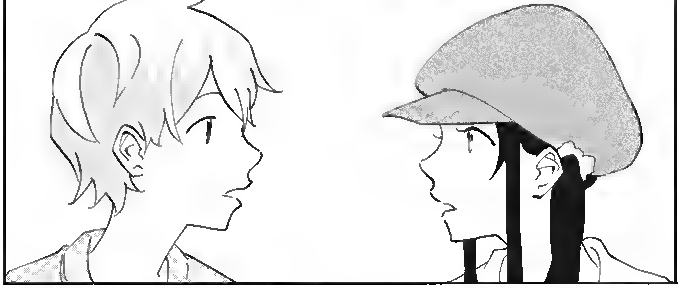


A TON OF PEOPLE HAVE COME...!
HEY.
IT'S A NICE GALLERY, HUH.
WHO ARE YOU!?

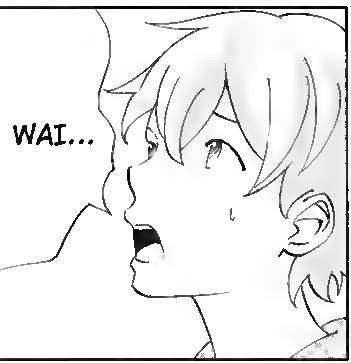
I'M SOUJI! SOUJI KUWABARA!
IT'S SUMMER, SO I TRIED A NEW LOOK! YOU DIDN'T RECOGNIZE ME?
...
I'M ERI'S BROTHER,
I OWN THIS GALLERY,
AND I'M THE BENEFACTOR WHO LET YOU USE THIS PLACE.
IT'S THAT GUY I HATE!

UM...
YES...
...
HOW DO I LOOK?
I'VE GOTTEN PRETTY HUNKY, HAVEN'T I?
SO WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
YOU WANNA KNOW?
NOT THIS...
!
SAY NO MORE!

WILL YOU LET ME...
FILM HERE TOMOR-ROW?



HUH?

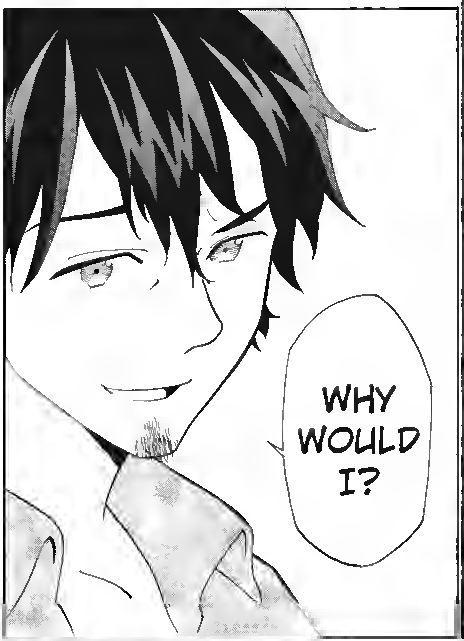

WAI...

WELL, ACTUALLY, NIHON TV IS GONNA DO A SPECIAL ON THIS GALLERY.
THIS IS A GREAT CHANCE FOR THE COMPANY TO DO SOME PR.

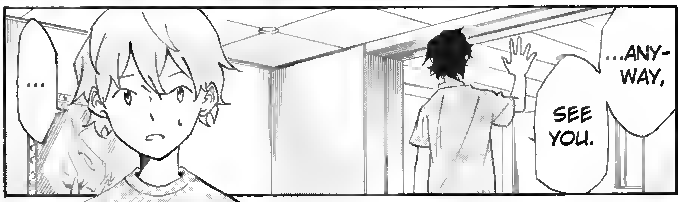
SAY NO MORE!

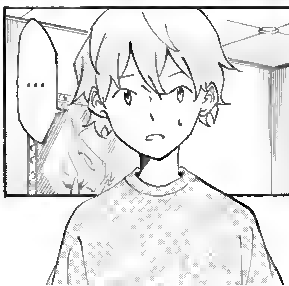
THIS IS GREAT FOR YOU GUYS!
BASICALLY, PEOPLE FROM AROUND THE WORLD WILL GET TO SEE YOUR PAINTINGS.
...!
I-I DON'T REALLY...
W-WE'LL DO IT!
HUH!?

B-BUT...
WE HAVE TO ASK EVERY-BODY...
RIGHT?
PLEASE, TEACHER ...
A-AOI-SAN?
I'LL BE BACK.
DECIDE WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO TODAY.
HM?
UM, SOUJI-SAN...


WHY WOULD I?

YOU'RE NOT...
GOING TO LOOK AT OUR PAINT-INGS?


...ANY-WAY,
SEE YOU.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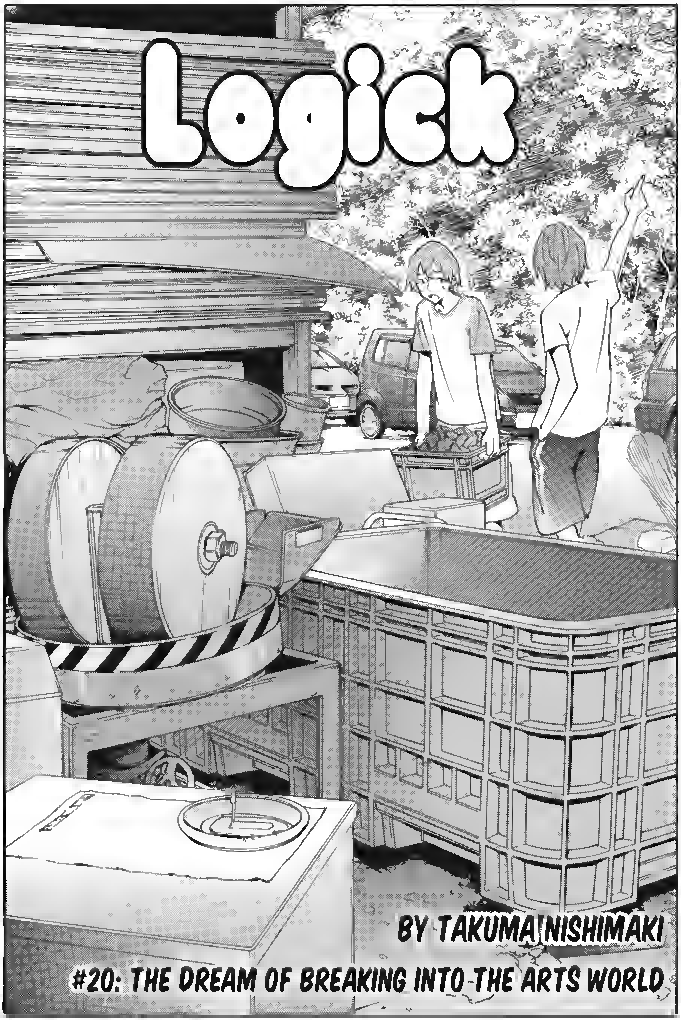

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WHY DO YOU THINK?
HEH HEH.
BE-CAUSE THEY'RE FILM-ING?
WHY IS EVERY-ONE ALL DRESSED UP?
...
SO YOU UNDER-STAND.
BAM!!
WE'RE GONNA BE ON TV!

THE WEATHER TODAY WAS NICE, SO...
I-I JUST DIDN'T HAVE ANY PLANS TODAY...
I TAKE THIS DAY OFF EVERY YEAR...
I JUST HAP-PENED TO BE FREE...
DON'T YOU ALL HAVE JOBS KEEPING YOU BUSY?
S-SO WE'RE GOING TO BE ON TV, BUT WHAT'S IT FOR?
N-NOT REA-LLY...
YOU'RE PRETTY INTO THIS... I'M SUR-PRISED.
IT SEEMS IT'S FOR AN 8AM NEWS PROGRAM CALLED "WAKE-UP TV."

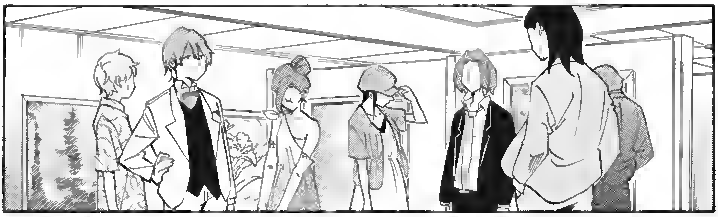
7:41
PAT
WHAT! THAT SHOW'S SUPER-FAMOUS!
W-WOW, THAT'S GREAT!
THIS MIGHT BE IT...
HUH?
THE DREAM! BREAKING INTO THE ARTS WORLD!
WHOA!

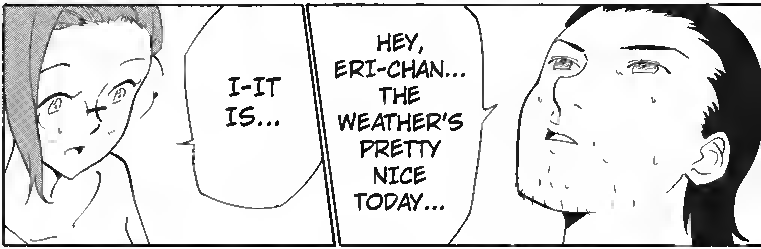
THERE'S NO WAY THAT'S GONNA HAPPEN...
POKE
YOU'VE CHANGED, TEACHER.

YOU DEFINITELY WOULD HAVE BEEN AGAINST THIS, BEFORE.
HUH? HOW...?
HOW?
WELL, NO, I AM REALLY AGAINST IT.
BUT YOU'LL ...
BEG ME TO JOIN IN, ANYWAY...
GIGGLE
クス
?
THAT'S TRUE.

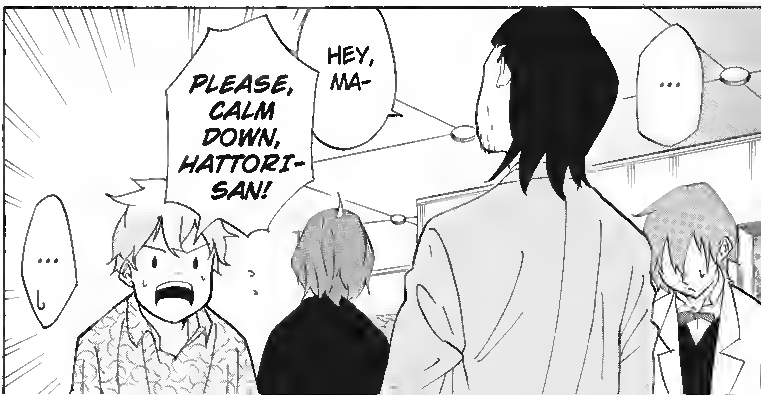
OH...
IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME...
SINCE AOI-SAN HAS BEEN LIKE THIS...
A-GA-GA-GA-DA...
WHEN WILL THE CAMER-AS BE HERE!?
HEY, MASA!
A-A-A-DO-DO-GOW...
I CAN'T UNDER-STAND YOU!
!?

UUH
HE'S SAYING THAT HE DOESN'T KNOW...
A-A-A-GA-GA-DA-KA
YOU CAN UNDER-STAND HIM!?
I JUST GOT A TEXT ...
THEY SAID THIRTY MORE MINUTES.
J-JUST A BIT LONG-ER...
OKAY ...
WOO!




HEY, ERI-CHAN... THE WEATHER'S PRETTY NICE TODAY...
I-IT IS...

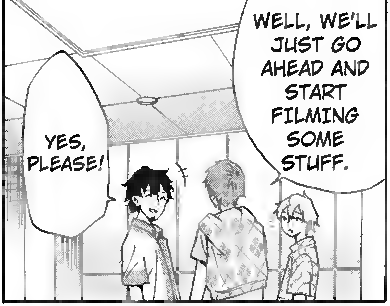
HEY, SHINYA... I DIDN'T REALLY GET ENOUGH SLEEP LAST NIGHT...
HUH... REALLY...


...
HEY, MA-
PLEASE, CALM DOWN, HATTORI-SAN!
...

HIYA, EVERYONE!
!

WOW, WHAT A NICE GALLERY!
Y-YES, IT IS!
...
THEY REALLY CAME...

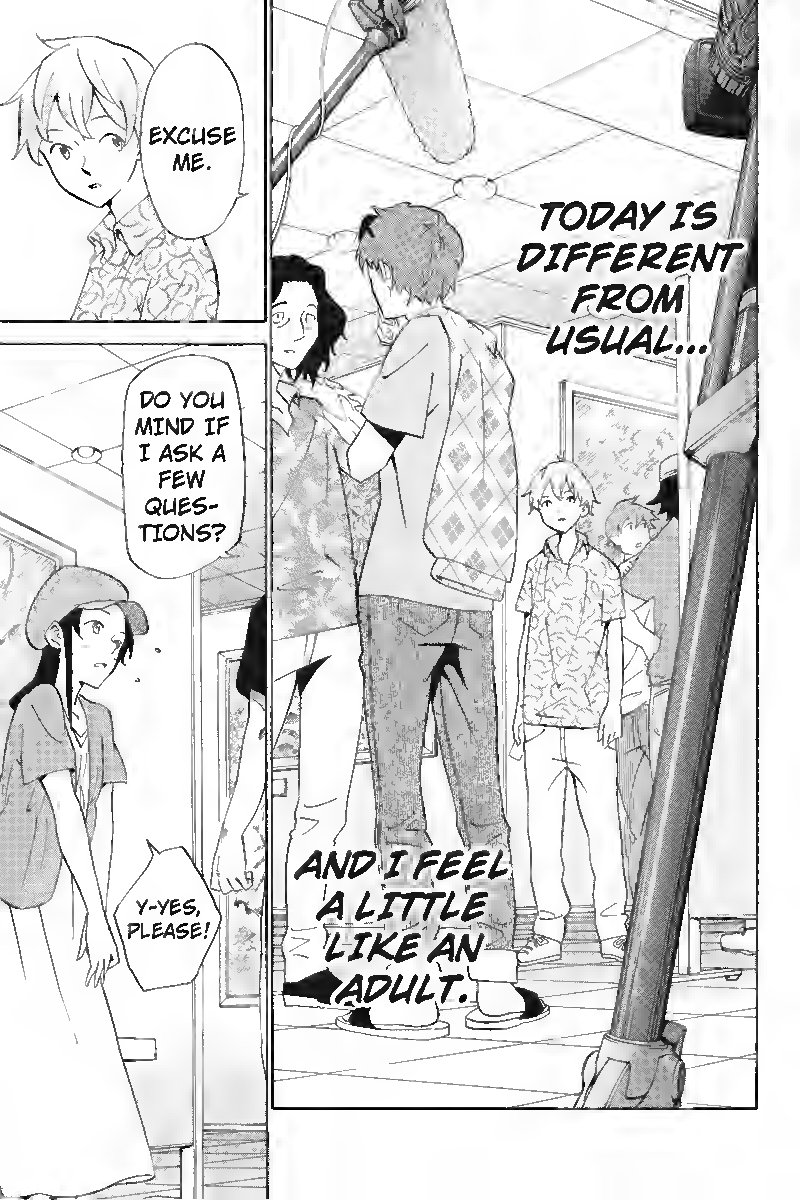
...
I'M KIKUGAWA.
SLIDE
MB TV PRODUCER NOZOMU KIKUGAWA
I'M GLAD WE COULD WORK WITH YOU TODAY.
TH-THANKS ...
AH... SUDDENLY MY STOMACH HURTS...
GRAB
DON'T RUN AWAY, MASA.
HUH? YOU NER-VOUS, MASA?
SOU-JI-SAN!?


WELL, WE'LL JUST GO AHEAD AND START FILMING SOME STUFF.
YES, PLEASE!

I-I-I-I-I'M TOTALLY CALM!
OH, I SEE.

I GOT A BUSINESS CARD...

GOT A FORMAL GREETING...
WOW, YOU'RE GOOD!
O-OF COURSE!
Y-YES!


EXCUSE ME.
DO YOU MIND IF I ASK A FEW QUES-TIONS?
Y-YES, PLEASE!
TODAY IS DIFFERENT FROM USUAL...
AND I FEEL A LITTLE LIKE AN ADULT.

AOI-SAN WANTED TO GET ON TV THAT BADLY, TOO, HUH...
HUH? SHE TOOK OFF HER HAT?

DO YOU KNOW WHY SHE'S SO SET ON THIS EXHIBITION?
HUH?

DOES SHE HAVE SOME SORT OF REASON?
YEP, SHE DOES.
A REALLY BIG ONE. BUT...

IT'S...
A SECRET BETWEEN THE TWO OF US.
I WON'T TELL YOU.